

# The Iron Age

A Review of the Hardware, Iron and Metal Trades.

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## Increased Speed of Machinery in Factories.

The speed of cotton machinery in Lowell is said to have been increased 30 per cent. within 12 or 15 years. If the city contained no more spindles in 1883 than in 1873, therefore, the production of the mills would still be largely enhanced. In considering the condition of various manufacturing interests this matter of higher speed and increased capacity of machinery is, says the *Commercial Bulletin*, often lost sight of, but is certainly worthy of attention in seasons of over-production like the past six months. There are about 12,000,000 cotton spindles in the United States to-day, against 7,000,000 in 1870, but if the speed and capacity per spindle has increased even 25 per cent., the actual productive capacity of the mills has been more than doubled. And not only has the cotton manufacturing capacity of the United States been more than doubled since 1870, but a glance at the amount of cotton

## The Blast Furnace of the Crozer Steel and Iron Company, at Roanoke, Va.

Among other interesting papers read at the Roanoke (Va.) meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers was that of Mr. J. P. Witherow, of Pittsburgh, describing the new blast furnace of the Crozer Steel and Iron Company, at Roanoke, Va. The furnace plant, as there stated, was built under contract by Messrs. Witherow & Gordon, of Pittsburgh. The furnace is 70 feet high by 16 feet bosh; tunnel-head, 12 feet 8 inches, and hearth 9 feet in diameter. The columns are 20 feet high above furnace level, below which they extend 2 feet. The shell is 23 feet diameter at bottom and 10 feet at top. The plate iron is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch at bottom, and tapers to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, the top ring being  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch. The furnace is provided with a double bell, 8 feet  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches external diameter and 4 feet 4 inch internal diameter, operated by a 32 x 63 inch air lift, and provided with safety-catch rods. The down-comer, which

blowing engine is among the foremost in the United States for strength, efficiency and durability, each engine having a maximum capacity of pumping 12,000 cubic feet of air per minute of piston displacement. The pumps are of the Cameron type, two for water supply, and two for filling boilers. The engine-house is roofed with a sway-bottomed water tank resting merely on the walls of the engine-house, without any other support, which is kept filled with water at all times, for the supply of the entire plant. It is 6 feet deep in the center, and the surface of the water is 42 feet 6 inches above the hearth level, or engine foundation.

The casting-house is 138 x 50 feet, outside measurement, and the stock-house 75 x 150 feet. Both of these buildings are roofed with corrugated iron, as is also the hoist-tower and bridge connecting it with the furnace. The hoisting apparatus is of the Crane Brothers system, of Chicago, and the superstructure is wrought-iron channel beams. This furnace has a cubical capacity of about

9000 feet, and when worked up to its reasonable output, under intelligent management, will have a producing capacity of fully 100 tons per day, and can be worked up

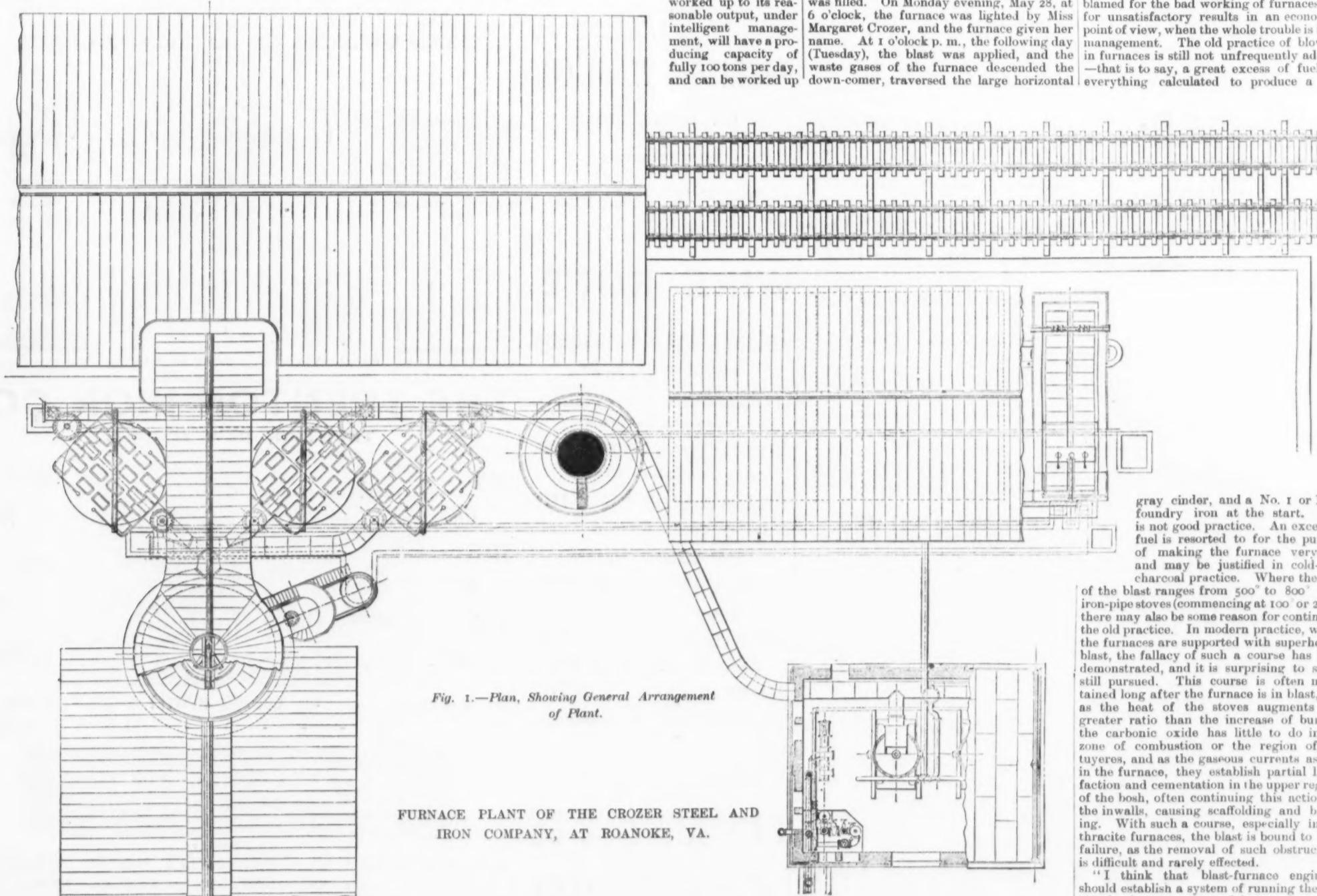
chimney or smoke-stake must have a capacity of carrying off 15 tons of gas (or products of combustion) for every ton of iron the furnace is expected to make.

In deciding on the amount of limestone necessary for a blast furnace (apart from the analysis of the cinder), it is found a good approximate rule to make the amount of lime (*i. e.*, the limestone less the carbonic acid) equal to the sum of the amounts of silica in the ores, limestone and fuel. If more lime is used, it is injurious to good furnace action. It also saturates the escaping gases with an excess of carbonic acid, which lessens their calorific power. A furnace works sluggishly on an excess of lime, and is apt to scaffold.

Concerning the flowing in of the furnace, Mr. Witherow says: "The filling was done by using some 15 cords of wood, on which was put about 15 tons of coke, and then the burden commenced by using 3000 pounds of coke, 1000 pounds of ore and 800 pounds of lime. This was continued by slightly increasing the ore and lime until the furnace was filled. On Monday evening, May 28, at 6 o'clock, the furnace was lighted by Miss Margaret Crozer, and the furnace given her name. At 1 o'clock p. m., the following day (Tuesday), the blast was applied, and the waste gases of the furnace descended the down-comer, traversed the large horizontal

stoves. Where a smaller quantity of wood and a larger proportion of coke is put on, with a greater burden, the hearth is filled with incandescent coke, and liquefaction is retarded until the hearth is in a condition to receive the iron and cinder. The regular process begins on a large scale, the hearth becomes filled with hot cinder, the process of combustion goes on steadily and the heat in the stoves is gradually increased, so that no matter how dark the cinder may be for the first day, which is most desirable, the heat will develop more rapidly than the burden can be increased. Within three days the temperature of the stoves must be reduced, or the cold blast put on, so as to keep down the heat, to prevent the iron becoming too gray or silvery. A furnace supported with superheated blast should, therefore, always be blown in on a reasonably heavy burden, and the manager should desire dark cinder for the first two days, and gradually increase his ore burden until he is satisfied that the proper proportions are on the furnace.

The Whitwell stoves are frequently blamed for the bad working of furnaces, and for unsatisfactory results in an economical point of view, when the whole trouble is in the management. The old practice of blowing-in furnaces is still not unfrequently adopted—that is to say, a great excess of fuel and everything calculated to produce a very



actually consumed by our mills shows an almost equal increase. In the three years 1869, 1870 and 1871 there were consumed in the United States 3,219,000 bales of cotton, or an average of 1,073,000 bales per annum. For the 10 months from September 1, 1882, to July 1, 1883, there have been taken for consumption by the spinners of this country 1,988,417 bales of cotton. Very moderate purchases during the next two months will bring the total up to 2,146,000 bales, or just twice as much cotton as was used in the United States in 1870.

In the woollen manufacturing interest very similar conditions are found to exist. A desire to diminish the cost of production has led to an increase in the speed of machinery, and an increase of the capacity of the mills in other directions. The loom which formerly ran 50 or 60 picks per minute now runs 95, perhaps; and where 40-inch cards were used, many mills now have cards 60 inches in width and of proportionately increased diameters. And yet, in speaking of the number of sets of woollen machinery in the United States, we are accustomed to compare the figures of 1883 with those of 1873 or 1863, without paying attention to any increase which has occurred in the size of the cards or capacity of the machinery during this period. The effect of lessening cost of production by means of increased speed and machinery of enhanced capacity is good. It is in the interest of the consumers, and therefore eminently altruistic in its tendency,

is surrounded with a spiral iron stairway, is 5 feet 6 inches external diameter and 4 feet 8 inches in the clear, at the bottom of which is placed a dust-catcher. The tuyeres, seven in number, and 7 inches in diameter, are placed 5 feet 6 inches above the hearth level, above which there are four circles of bosh-cooling plates, each plate being traversed with a  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch gas-pipe coil. The furnace is operated with three of the latest Whitwell fire-brick hot-blast stoves, 18 feet in diameter by 70 feet high, and each having over 24,000 square feet of heating surface.

The products of combustion from these stoves are taken off by underground flues to an iron chimney, 160 feet high by 8 feet in the clear. This chimney also gives draft to a plant of 10 steel boilers, divided into five distinct batteries. Each boiler is 34 feet long, 46 inches in diameter and contains two 16-inch flues. Eight of these boilers, or four batteries, are expected to furnish an ample supply of steam for the whole furnace plant, leaving a battery of two boilers idle for repairs or cleaning. In the accompanying engravings of this plant it will be observed that an arched flue traverses the foundations, so as to communicate with the chimney for additional batteries of boilers, should a second furnace be added to the plant.

The engine-house is 31 x 40 feet in the clear, and contains two of the newest style of Weimer blowing engines; diameter of steam cylinder, 42 inches; blowing cylinder, 84 inches; and stroke, 4 feet. This type of

is to 100 tons per week, if the manager so determine, on an ore containing 50 per cent. of metallic iron, with silica not exceeding 6 to 8 per cent., at a temperature of blast ranging from 1400° to 1600° F.

Mr. Witherow submitted the following formulæ, which he uses in determining the capacity or output of a furnace; also, in determining the size of its boiler, engine and draft-stack. He allows, for anthracite furnaces, 60 square feet of fire surface to boilers to produce a ton of iron in 24 hours; therefore, 6000 feet of fire surface will supply steam to make 100 tons of iron in 24 hours. For coke furnaces he allows 40 square feet of heating surface for a ton of iron in 24 hours, or 4000 square feet for 100 tons of iron in 24 hours; and for charcoal furnaces he gives 30 square feet for a ton of iron in 24 hours, or 3000 square feet for 100 tons of iron in 24 hours. This is assuming that the heat of the blast will range from 1300° to 1500° F.

By the same method he determines that 140 feet of air per minute of piston displacement will make a ton of iron in 24 hours with 50 per cent. ores, if not too highly silicious, at a temperature of blast above given; therefore, 14,000 feet per minute will make 100 tons of iron in 24 hours. For charcoal furnaces, on the same ores and at the same temperature, he calculates 110 feet per minute to make a ton of iron; therefore 11,000 feet per minute will make 100 tons of iron in 24 hours. He assumes that the

blast-tube, flowed under the boilers and the Whitwell stoves, without the least explosion or even the faintest puff.

"There was a difference of opinion with regard to the introduction of fire into the gas flue some time before applying the blast. I maintain that a wood fire should be put in the flue, and I would be glad to submit this question to furnace men. The operations of the furnace went off satisfactorily. The hearth, however, was too cold for the reception of the ore. It would have been better, I think, to have put in from three to five cords of wood, just sufficient to thoroughly ignite the coke, then about 30 tons of coke, and commence with a burden of 3000 pounds of coke, 3000 pounds of ore and 1200 of lime, continuing this burden until the furnace was filled.

As soon as the blast went on, I would have charged 3000 of coke, and 4000 of ore and the same proportion of lime. I maintain this is the proper way of blowing in a furnace. The use of a large quantity of cord-wood, with a small proportion of fuel on the top, and the burdening of a small proportion of ore to fuel, is not good practice, because the wood rapidly consumes, allowing the space that it occupied to be replaced by coke and the furnace burden.

Then the small quantity of ore is brought very near the tuyeres before the blast goes on, and before the hearth is thoroughly heated; consequently this ore has a tendency to chill and settle in the bottom, if the furnace is not fortified by the Whitwell

gray cinder, and a No. 1 or No. 2 foundry iron at the start. This is not good practice. An excess of fuel is resorted to for the purpose of making the furnace very hot, and may be justified in cold-blast charcoal practice. Where the heat of the blast ranges from 500° to 800° with iron-pipe stoves (commencing at 100° or 200°), there may also be some reason for continuing the old practice. In modern practice, where the furnaces are supported with superheated blast, the fallacy of such a course has been demonstrated, and it is surprising to see it still pursued. This course is often maintained long after the furnace is in blast, and as the heat of the stoves augments in a greater ratio than the increase of burden, the carbonic oxide has little to do in the zone of combustion or the region of the tuyeres, and as the gaseous currents ascend in the furnace, they establish partial liquefaction and cementation in the upper regions of the bosh, often continuing this action up the inwalls, causing scaffolding and bridging. With such a course, especially in anthracite furnaces, the blast is bound to be a failure, as the removal of such obstructions is difficult and rarely effected.

"I think that blast-furnace engineers should establish a system of running the furnace by the temperature of the escaping gases. This temperature indicates the changes more quickly than the cinder or the iron. Other things being equal, the hotter the blast the cooler the top, and vice versa, and the increase of temperature at the tunnel-head will sooner indicate to the manager a derangement in furnace action than anything else. As the temperature of the higher zones increases, it will show that there is either an inadequate amount of ore and lime for the ascending gaseous currents and carbonic oxide to act upon, or it will show that the furnace is beginning to cement and scaffold, and prompt measures can be taken to remedy the difficulty.

"Postscript.—The amount of foundry iron weighed to-day (June 2) for yesterday's output was 77 tons, which is the fifth day of the furnace's operations. The fuel is very close to a pound of iron with a pound of coke, the furnace being under a burden of nearly 2 pounds of ore to 1 of coke, and the ore yielding over 50 per cent. of metallic iron. This indicates that within a few days this furnace may be making over 100 tons of iron per day, on a fuel consumption not exceeding a pound of coke to a pound of iron."

More recent particulars concerning the working of the furnaces show that the yield is now from 80 to 90 tons per day, sometimes reaching over 100 tons, one-third foundry and two-thirds gray forge. The pig made is marketed in the Cumberland Valley and at Harrisburg, Pa., in Baltimore, and to nail mills on the Ohio River. Its quality is

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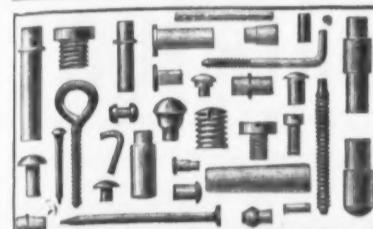
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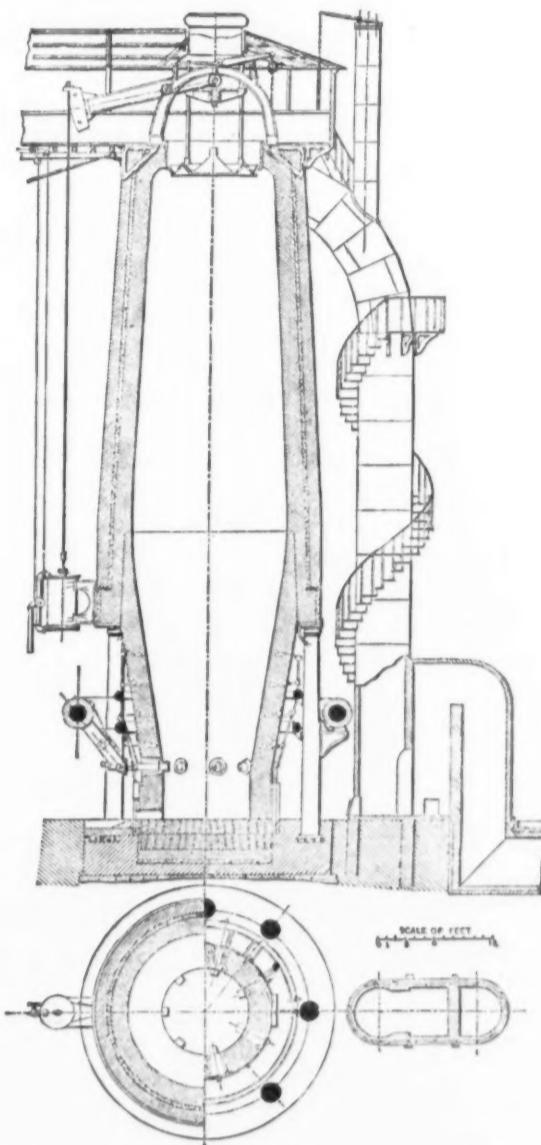
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very satisfactory. The ores used were mainly from the Upland mines of the company, near Blue Ridge Station of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, 10 miles from the furnace, and from the Houston mines of the company, near Houston Station of Shenandoah Valley Railroad, 15 miles from the furnace. These limonite ores yielded from 40 to 46 per cent., averaging over 44, in the operations of the furnace. Some limonite ores of the same kind were obtained from the Vesuvius mines, on Shenandoah Valley Railroad, in Rockbridge County, and some specular ores from the Upland mines. The company, we understand, are now using some ore from the mines of the Rorer Iron Company, near Roanoke. The limestone used is dolomite from quarries near Blue Ridge Station of Norfolk and Western Railroad, and near the furnace, and a very pure limestone from quarries on Shenandoah Valley Railroad, near Buchanan. Owing to the delay in getting the coke ovens at Pocahontas, in the Flat-top coal region of the Virginias, on the Norfolk and Western Railroad, in opera-

reaches the altitude of hansom cabs, and block stone or concrete pavements, clean kept as a Dutch floor. The city has good schools, churches and theaters. In politics it is Radical. When Mr. Gladstone made his famous contest in Midlothian, the Radicals of Leeds, fearing he would be beaten in that district, where no other Liberal would have had a ghost of chance, put him up as one of their candidates and elected him by a large majority. As he was also elected by the Midlothian constituency, a new election was held at Leeds, and Mr. Herbert Gladstone, son of the Premier, was chosen, and Mr. Herbert Gladstone is a Radical of the Radicals. Almost invariably there are Radical majorities where there are large numbers of workingmen. The Conservatives are the champions of the moneyed power, of great corporations and great land owners, and of the unrepresentative body known as the House of Lords. A mere Liberal is a sort of Conservative in disguise. The hope of Great Britain for a more republican form of government reposes in the



Furnace Plant of the Crozer Steel and Iron Company.—Fig. 2.—Longitudinal and Horizontal Sections of Furnace.

tion, this furnace began with Connellsville, Pa., coke; but now the supply enables it to use about two-thirds of Flat-top and one-third of Connellsville, and it will soon use Flat-top exclusively. The consumption has averaged about 1.4 tons to the ton of iron made. The principal office of the Crozer Steel and Iron Company is at Upland, Pa., not far from Philadelphia. Its officers are: Samuel A. Crozer, president; W. H. H. Robinson, treasurer; Francis E. Weston, secretary, and D. F. Houston, who resides at the furnace, general manager.

The Industries of Leeds.

Mr. E. W. Lightner, in a letter to the Pittsburgh Dispatch, says:

In its industrial characteristics Leeds resembles Pittsburgh, looked at superficially, more than any city I have visited on this side of the Atlantic. It has its forests of chimneys; it has its shroud of smoke; it has its soot showers and general dinginess. The great industries of Leeds are woolen factories. The city has a population of 300,000. The streets are excellently paved with block stone. The pavements are kept so clean that no Pittsburgher can drive over them and think of his native city without a blush of shame. The municipal debt is over £2,000,000, or \$10,000,000, but for this it has fine pavements; splendid public buildings; a beautiful park that has cost about £150,000; a plentiful supply of water brought 15 miles from the Washburn River, which is comparatively free from sewage, slaughter-houses and factory contamination; the gas works of two formerly competing companies which the city purchased 13 years ago for £800,000; and several fine bridges which have for some years been free of toll.

You will observe that there has been a difference somewhere between the management of public affairs in Pittsburgh and in Leeds. The latter place has a large debt, it is true, but it now has all necessary public properties in fine condition, and can make repairs and reduce the debt without burdensome taxation. The rates are much lower than in Pittsburgh, and the cost of water and gas is trivial by comparison. Gas costs about 45 cents per 1000 cubic feet. The water is measured by Siemens and Adamson's meters, and is furnished for trades purposes at 6d per 1000 gallons.

Leeds is not looked upon as being by any means a model municipality in England, but its government assuredly grows admirably by comparison with that of some American cities. No city is quite civilized till it

Radicals, who are both aggressive and progressive.

At considerable expenditure of time and patience I have succeeded in getting what I believe to be the most correct statement of prices paid to all kinds of workmen and women that has been presented to the public with reference to this region, the great manufacturing district of England, and which govern generally in the United Kingdom. I attach much importance to these figures, because they fairly serve to show what working people earn in all this country. In some localities a few workmen having special skill or employed at labor which makes an extraordinary demand upon muscle get higher wages, and I have not included puddlers, refiners and plate rollers, because they invariably make enough to live comfortably, though their less fortunate associates may suffer greatly from lack of work, the iron industry very rarely furnishing regular employment. I know how managers of newspapers detect a long array of figures, but I hope these will be endured, and that my autocratic friend, the proof-reader, will treat them with his most distinguished consideration:

In the department of woolen cloth manufacturing workmen receive the following wages for a week consisting of 56½ hours, the minimum and maximum price being given in English shillings: Card cleaners, 22 to 26; rag grinders, 25 to 35; spinners, 25 to 35; loom turners and designers, 25 to 30; weavers, 18 to 25; other workmen average from 18 to 23; women weavers and card fillers, 9 to 12. The better class of skilled workmen among the cloth finishers, such as cloth-pressers and stuff-pressers, make from 30 to 50; others from 22 to 26, and the laboring dyers from 18 to 22. First-class tailors make from 30 to 35, and second-class from 25 to 30 per week of 60 hours. Tailoresses, first class, from 10 to 15, and second class, from 6 to 10 per week of 56½ hours. The introduction of improved machinery has not only vastly lessened the number of working people engaged in all departments of woolen manufacture, but the wages paid to those who remain are lower. One person in the spinning mills will do the work that was once done by half a dozen, and in the great clothing-making establishments suits are cut out by machinery, a dozen suits being cut at once. These are given out to men and women who have machines at their own homes, and are called "slop made." The best suits, made to order, are, of course, cut singly, and they are made entirely by hand.

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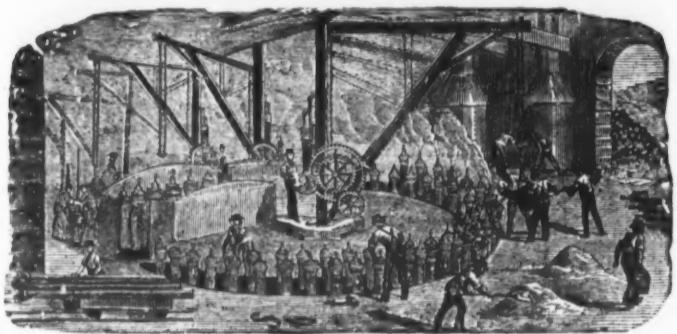
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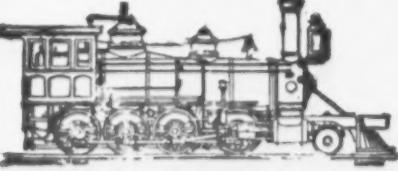
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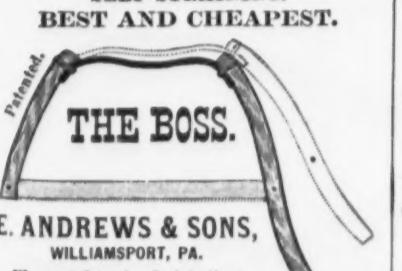
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according with the profits, and to each member according to his purchases. It is a grand thing for working people, and only requires honesty and good managerial talent to make it successful wherever it is attempted. Paupers are undoubtedly more plentiful in this district than in any place of which I have knowledge in America. Taking districts which are a fair sample, the indoor and outdoor relief shows a pauper element which is about 2½ per cent. of the population. The places investigated are Leeds, Hunslet, Halbeck and Bromley, having a population of nearly 500,000. It costs less to maintain paupers here, however, than in America, where politicians manipulate the funds. My honest conclusion from what I have seen here is that the industrious, economical, sober-working people of this region will compare favorably as to condition with their prototypes in America. That condition is already enough, but what are they going to do about it? Money rules the camp, the court, the grove, and men below, if not heaven above.

### Pittsburgh's Industries.

Some facts and figures relative to the manufacturing statistics of Pittsburgh, as shown by the last census, are decidedly interesting, notwithstanding the fact that they are incomplete and in some cases even inaccurate. Some explanation may, therefore, not be out of place in this connection. Pittsburgh, as is well known, is a great manufacturing community, of which a large number of the establishments are situated at points just outside the city lines. Of the 250,000 people who get their living from the commercial and industrial enterprises of the city, 100,000 live in the manufacturing suburbs, within a radius of 10 miles, while of the manufacturing industries which are operated by Pittsburgh capital, do all their business through Pittsburgh, and are as truly part of her interests as any located within the city lines, fully one-third in number and over one-fourth in number of hands and value of product are located in the surrounding towns. The census report naturally observes the geographical division, and reports only such establishments as are located within the city lines. The difference which this arbitrary division makes is shown by the following comparison of the manufacturing totals of the census for Pittsburgh and those of the county of Alleghany, of which only an inappreciable portion could properly be reckoned outside of the legitimate industries of the city:

	Pittsburgh.	Alleghany
No. of establishments	1,112	1,805
Capital invested	\$2,845,000	\$70,641,426
Hands employed	46,120	49,171
Value of product	\$17,186,488	\$22,371,057
Value of material used	42,109,777	61,719,773
Va. of product	75,015,247	30,247,333

The census of Pittsburgh alone ranks her as only the fourteenth city of the United States in the number of manufacturing establishments. In the amount of capital invested in her manufactures, Pittsburgh is ranked by the census as the fifth city of the country, while in the number of hands employed the return for the city proper gives her only the ninth place, and in wages paid the eighth. In the value of manufactured product, which is low on her leading staples, Pittsburgh proper is the ninth city of the country by the census report, while the total of the manufactures in the county is the seventh in the United States. A comparison of the manufacturing statistics of the leading industrial counties would show the relative importance of the manufacturing centers more clearly than the comparison of the 20 leading cities afforded by the census.

The further inadequacy of the census return is strongly indicated by the comparison of the totals of the census for the manufactures of Allegheny County with the totals of the report of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. Of the manufactures of the two cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny in 1881, the latter shows a total of capital invested in manufactures of \$105,401,481, against \$70,641,426 credited by the census report to the entire county for the previous year. In like manner the Chamber of Commerce reports the total number of hands employed at 85,436, against 49,171 given by the census, while the value of the product in 1881 is stated by the local report at \$145,721,619, against \$22,371,057 in 1880 by the census. A portion of these differences may be held to cover the growth of the city in the year. A portion, also, might be credited to the natural disposition of a local organization to give its totals, so as to make the most favorable showing possible. But the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce report was remarkably clear from that tendency, and, indeed, what errors have been discovered in it since it was issued last year were in the other direction. Giving both ideas due weight, it is tolerably clear that there is a large difference, which can only be accounted for by the incompleteness of the census returns upon the manufacturing industries of Allegheny County.

Other reasons why the figures of the census report cannot be analyzed as presenting a fair view of Pittsburgh industries are shown by the utter absence from its table of such branches as the 12 boiler and tank manufacturers, turning out \$1,450,000 of production in 1881; 16 brass foundries, with a production of \$1,300,000; six saw and tool factories, with a production of \$1,345,000, and seven stove foundries, with a production of \$600,000. Other instances could be given, a portion of which may be ascribed to a difference in classification between the census report and the Chamber of Commerce report, but which must argue the superficiality of the census report itself to a great extent. The opportunities for giving a statistical showing of the enlargement of the industries of Pittsburgh since the census year—except such as may be drawn by the enlarged totals of the Chamber of Commerce report, which was published last year—are confined to the official figures of iron and steel production. As those industries form, in a great measure, the foundation of Pittsburgh's industrial activity, the following statement of the production of iron and steel in Allegheny County, from the annual report of the American Iron and Steel Association, will give a fair indication of the enlargement of the volume of Pittsburgh industries during the past three years:

	1880.	1881.	1882.
Pig iron—No. of blast furnaces	15	15	16
Total make, tons	390,497	385,453	358,841
Finished iron—No. of rolling mills	30	30	31
Product of iron rails, bar, angle, bolt, rod and hoop, tons	287,253	407,112	316,628
Sheet and plate, tons	80,599	75,707	51,028
Nails, kegs	410,008	455,916	459,228
Total rolled iron, tons	389,107	505,182	410,271
Steel—No. of steel mills	17	17	18
Crucible steel ingots, tons	52,136	61,456	59,596
Other steel, including Bessemer, tons	169,879	247,145	259,501
Total steel, tons	221,055	318,612	316,897

Four of the steel mills included in the above report are also iron-rolling mills, so that they appear twice in the number of establishments, but not in the amount of product. The above table shows that while from 1880 to 1881 there was an increase in the production of 8,000 tons of pig metal, 116,000 tons of rolled iron, and 87,000 tons of steel, there was a retrograde movement in 1882 on the first two classes, the production of pig iron having decreased 27,000 tons, while that of rolled iron fell off 75,000 tons. This is directly attributable to the strike, which held the iron works idle during four months of 1882. As the loss in product is not by any means in proportion to the loss of time, it will be seen that the real significance of the showing is an actual gain in productive power. Steel made another gain in 1882 of nearly 10,000 tons over the large product of 1881. These figures argue very plainly the steady enlargement of the iron and steel production of Allegheny County, not so much by the addition of new establishments as by the expansion and improvement of the older works.

The relative importance of Pittsburgh to the iron and steel industry of the whole country is also shown to have increased by the official figures of the American Iron and Steel Association. In 1880 Allegheny County produced 7 per cent. of the pig iron made in the United States, 21.21 per cent. of the rolled-iron product of the entire country, and 15.9 per cent. of the total domestic production of steel. In 1881 the proportion increased to 8.4 per cent. on pig iron, 23.15 per cent. on rolled iron, 17.34 per cent. on steel. In 1882 the strike principally affected Pittsburgh, and consequently her ratio of the production of the entire nation fell back somewhat, but not to the degree that might have been expected from the duration of the strike. The percentages for that year were 6.5 per cent. on pig metal, 19 per cent. on rolled iron and 16.35 per cent. on steel. When the figures for 1883 are completed next spring, it is safe to predict that the importance of Pittsburgh's production will have sustained, if not increased, the percentages shown by the returns of 1881. In examining the table of manufactures for Pittsburgh the most distinctive feature is, of course, the iron interest, and the subsidiary manufactures arising out of that industry. From the Chamber of Commerce report is taken the following summary of the different manufactures of metal in Pittsburgh and Allegheny for 1881:

	No. estab- lishments	Capital invested	Hands em- ployed	Value of product
Iron rolling mills	16	\$10,620,000	18,025	\$10,242,459
Iron blast furnaces	16	4,569,000	2,285	8,790,493
Steel mills	17	14,175,000	7,000	18,378,510
Agricultural implements	5	400,000	365	675,000
Boilers, tanks, &c.	12	645,000	405	1,450,000
Brass founders	16	683,000	339	1,390,000
Iron bridges	3	570,000	752	1,452,000
Hardware	5	391,000	416	5,000
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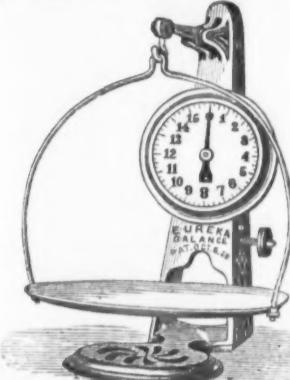
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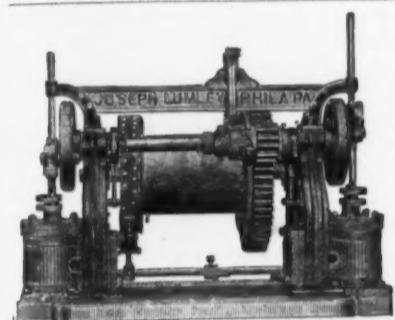
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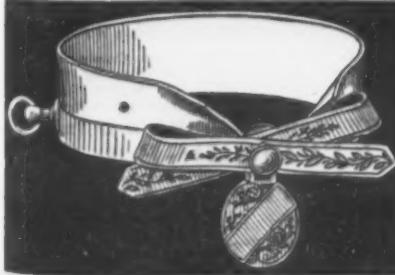


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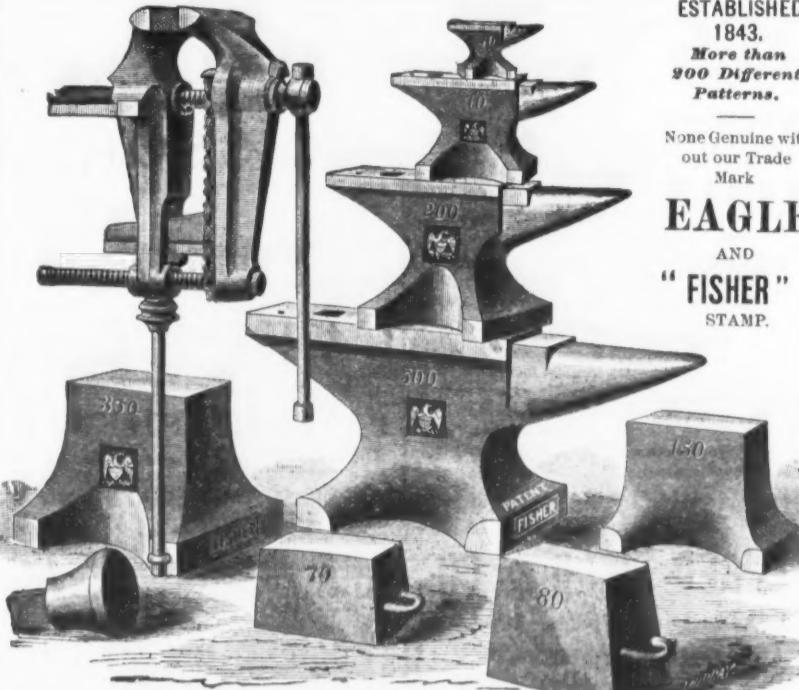
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### Coal Dust and Colliery Explosions.

Some few years ago, says a writer in the *Iron and Coal Trades Review*, the mining world was rather surprised and alarmed at the advancement of a theory to the effect that very small proportions of inflammable gas, much less than could be detected by a safety lamp, in conjunction with fine particles of coal dust in the air of a coal mine, were capable, on ignition, of producing an explosion of great magnitude. This was a theory calculated to cause much alarm and anxiety to all persons in charge of mines of a dry, dusty nature, especially as it had always been accepted as a recognized fact that if the air of a mine was kept in such a pure state that no trace of inflammable gas could be detected by means of a safety lamp, the mine might be worked with perfect safety. Consequently, the chief aim as regards ventilation has always been—by placing furnaces at the bottom of the up-cast shafts, or mechanical fans of large dimensions at the top of the same, and by maintaining underground airways of large and adequate sectional area, so as to reduce the frictional resistance there met with to the lowest possible extent—to produce enormous currents of air, traveling at great velocities, and by judicious internal arrangements to conduct the same around the working faces and back to the up-cast shaft, in order to dilute and render harmless the gases that may be discharged from time to time from the working faces and old goaves.

It has, however, been conclusively proved by the experiments of Mr. Galloway, Professor Abel and others, that even in a colliery so ventilated, if it be of a dry, dusty nature—that is, if fine coal dust is found adhering to the sides of the airways and covering the timbers placed therein for the support of the same—if the air contains even a small percentage of inflammable gas, very much less than can be detected by means of a safety lamp, then under certain conditions as to velocity, &c., great danger exists, and should an open flame be by any means exposed in such an atmosphere, the risk of a serious explosion is very great. More recent researches on this subject, by the same gentlemen, have led them to go even further than this, and to come to the conclusion that the presence of inflammable gas, even in small quantities, is not necessary, but that air saturated with coal dust alone becomes highly dangerous, and all that is required to cause an explosion is a combination of circumstances; something occurring whereby there is a sudden increase in the velocity of the current, a flame, and, simultaneously, a cloud of dust. Such a theory as this, emanating from such high authorities as those referred to, induced the writer to conduct some experiments for himself, with different dusts obtained from the mines under his charge, and although he has not been able to go so far as the gentlemen previously named, and to satisfy himself that a mere mechanical mixture of coal dust and air is at all capable of directly producing an explosion, unassisted by the admixture of some percentage of gas, he is thoroughly convinced that it is an element of great danger, and does add very much to the disastrous effects of an explosion of gas in a mine.

It may, however, be the means of indirectly, as it were, causing an explosion of gas, from experiment the writer found that by passing a current of air, saturated with coal dust, free from any percentage of gas whatever, over a gas jet burning in a box designed to represent the gallery of a mine, the flame was gradually lengthened as the velocity of the current was increased, until, at a velocity of about 12½ feet per second, the flame traveled right to the end of the box, a distance of 21 feet, and in another case, at a velocity of 27 feet per second to the end of the box, a distance of 40 feet, and in either case the writer believes the flame could have been carried to a much greater distance, could the box have been lengthened and the cloud of dust kept up at the same velocity. From this it can easily be imagined that should a cloud of dust, traveling at a high velocity in a mine, become by any means ignited, flame may be carried forward to the edge of a goaf containing gas or to a district where the air contains such a small percentage of gas as not to be detected by the safety lamp, and an explosion of varied magnitude be the result. The writer found that it was not practicable—with the dusts experimented on—to propagate a continuous flame at velocities under 12½ feet per second, although in all cases the length of the flame became greater as the velocity increased, but it is quite possible that such may be the case at less velocities with dusts of a more highly sensitive nature. It would therefore appear that producing enormous currents of air, traveling at high velocities, is in dry, dusty mines but the means of rendering them more unsafe, a statement which may appear to be somewhat paradoxical, but it is nevertheless true. Managers of mines of this description are therefore placed in a somewhat anomalous position, or, as it were, between two dangers; because, in modern mining, when collieries are of so much greater extent than was formerly the case, and necessarily so on account of the enormous capital required to develop them where the depth is great, and when inflammable gas is so freely given off from the face of the coal, and at such enormous pressures as have recently been proved in one of the British coal-mining districts—in some cases over 400 pounds per square inch—it is absolutely requisite to produce such an amount of ventilation as will dilute and render these discharges of gas harmless. By so doing the velocity of the currents in the main airways must necessarily be high, and the danger, consequently, from coal dust materially increased.

Thus, while endeavoring to reduce the danger arising from inflammable gas to the minimum, it is but the means of increasing the danger arising from coal dust, and vice versa. As the discharges of inflammable gas from the goaves and working faces cannot in any way be controlled, the necessary ventilation must be produced to remove the consequent danger, and endeavor made to lessen as much as possible that arising from coal dust. It would therefore appear to be desirable, in very dry, dusty mines, to endeavor to prevent the possibility of currents traveling at high velocities coming in contact with flame, and to accomplish this it seems expedient to prohibit naked lights of any description whatever being used in such pits, and to work the same exclusively by means of suitable safety lamps, capable of standing the test of not passing the flame at the highest velocities in which they may be placed, such lamps being lighted, examined, and locked on the surface, and not again opened until their return. It would also seem advisable, where explosives are used (and it is necessary that such should be employed in all pits more or less) to take the precaution, if dry dust exists where the explosive is to be used, to water the mine for a sufficient radius from the point of ignition. Traveling roads where there is much traffic by animals and workmen are better for being occasionally watered, in order to prevent clouds of dust arising, and in such mines where water cannot be used by reason of the thinness of a soft, spongy nature, ordinary common salt is often beneficially employed and answers practically the same purpose. Such, then, is briefly the part played by coal dust in the working of coal mines. Much more might be added, but sufficient has been said to show that coal dust is an element of considerable danger, and cannot be too carefully looked after by all connected with mines of a dry, dusty nature.

### Responsibility of Railroads for Breakage of Stoves in Transit.

In the case of Lee vs. the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company, decided recently by the Supreme Court of Minnesota, it appeared that the plaintiff shipped at Chicago, by the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, a carload of stoves consigned to himself at Moorhead, Minn. The stoves were carried over the Chicago and Northwestern and Omaha railroads to St. Paul, and thence to their destination over the defendant's line. The defendant, instead of transferring them to its own cars at St. Paul, allowed them to be carried over its own road in the car in which they had been carried from Chicago, and billed them through in that car from St. Paul to Moorhead without opening it or inspecting the contents. When the car was opened, upon reaching its destination, the stoves were found to be badly broken. Plaintiff sued the defendant for damages and recovered judgment. This judgment and an order denying a new trial were affirmed by the Supreme Court, which, in the course of its opinion, said: "Where goods have been transported by several successive carriers, and it appears that they were in good condition when delivered to the first carrier, the jury may presume, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, that the goods reached the hands of the last carrier in the same condition as when delivered to the first carrier on the line. This rule is founded upon important considerations of public policy. This rule is not modified or changed by the fact that the last carrier, instead of transferring the goods, transported them over its line in the foreign car in which it received them. As a matter of convenience to the carriers themselves, this is usually done where the freight is received in carloads for a common destination. To indulge in a different presumption in such cases would, as business is now conducted, practically abrogate the rule more strictly in the former case than in the latter, for we see no reason why the carrier would not have the right to open the car for the purpose of inspecting the contents—a right which they might not have in the case of closed packages. Of course, we are not now speaking of cars in transit from a foreign country in bond and under the seal of the United States Custom House authorities."

### Activity in Delaware Shipbuilding.

There has been a remarkable development in Delaware shipbuilding since the first of the year. During that period 5 steel, 51 iron and 36 wooden vessels have been constructed, upon which the weight of iron used was 31,810 tons, or 63,620,689 pounds. The tonnage of the wooden vessel aggregated 20,456. At the Chester shipyard of John Roach 12 vessels were built, with an aggregate tonnage of 23,309 tons. The operations of John H. Dialogue, at Kaighn's Point, were confined principally to the construction of tugboats, seven of which have been completed, and in the building of which 523 tons of iron were used. The Messrs. Cramp's Sons have performed considerable shipbuilding since last January. In building the Tacoma 4,200,000 pounds of iron were used, and in the construction of three other steamers 4,400 more tons of the material were used. In the construction of Jay Gould's yacht Atlanta there were used 600 tons of iron and steel. No vessels have been completed yet at the new yard of the American Shipbuilding Company, Port Richmond, although work has been commenced on nine. Since the first of the year two building yards and two repairing yards and marine railways have been established at Camden.

The fourth of the large iron ferryboats being built by Messrs. Ward, Stanton & Co., of Newburgh, N. Y., for the passenger transfer service of the New York, West Shore and Buffalo, and the New York, Ontario and Western Railroads, was successfully launched a short time ago. All four of the ferryboats are of the same size, and the cost of each is placed at about \$150,000. They are named the Newburgh, the Kingston, the Albany and the Oswego, the latter being the vessel recently launched. In size and power they will compare favorably with any ferryboats in New York Harbor. The first two named are completed, the Albany is nearly ready for service and the Oswego will be done in about six weeks.

According to a statement recently made by Dr. Norvin Green, the messages received in the New York offices of the Western Union Telegraph Company range from 80,000 to 85,000 per day.

## Cutlery.

INFRINGEMENT OF JOHN WILSON'S TRADE MARK, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

JOHN WILSON'S  
BUTCHERS' KNIVES,  
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WORKS: SYCAMORE ST., SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND. Established 1750.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT  
WHILEAS, I, GEORGE A. ROBINSON, of West Mansfield, County of Bristol, State of Massachusetts, have heretofore manufactured and sold certain Knives bearing a Mark which is claimed to be an imitation of the trade-mark owned by John Wilson, of Sheffield, England, which consists of four peacock feathers and a diamond, under the mistaken belief that I had the right to do so.

NOW, This, is to Witness, that, in consideration of the forbearance of the Representatives of the said John Wilson to sue me for damages for the wrong aforesaid, I do hereby undertake and agree,

FIRST, to surrender and deliver to the Attorneys for the said John Wilson, all knives now on hand, and in my possession, or under my control, bearing the said imitation trade-mark, and

SECOND, I further undertake and agree to and with the said John Wilson, and his legal representatives, not to manufacture or sell, or cause to be manufactured or sold, in the future, Knives or other Cutlery, bearing his trade-mark aforesaid, or any imitation or simulation thereof. IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal at West Mansfield, aforesaid, this thirty-first day of May, 1883.

WITNESS—  
E. M. REED,  
(Attorney for Defendant.)

G. A. ROBINSON, L.S.  
Imitation  SHEARSTEEL Mark.

AMERICAN MADE RAZORS



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MANUFACTURER OF  
STROPS  
In All Styles.

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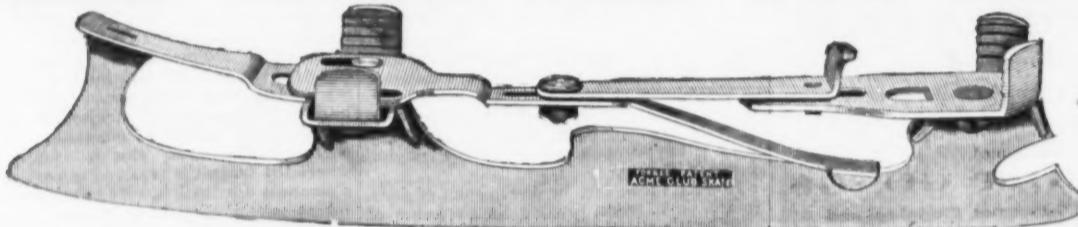
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Retains the First Place and Foremost Rank for Demonstrated Superiority.

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ONEIDA ALARM TILL.  
SUSCEPTIBLE OF OVER 100 CHANGES.  
Better than any other Till in the market. No tampering with keys. It almost never takes a key to open it, unless acquainted with combination. Send for prices and compare this Till with others in the market. No Till-tapping possible.

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WROUGHT IRON ADJUSTABLE  
Forty Daisy Trucks in use. Just  
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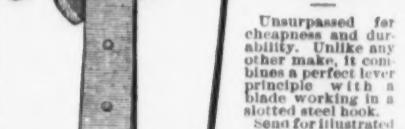
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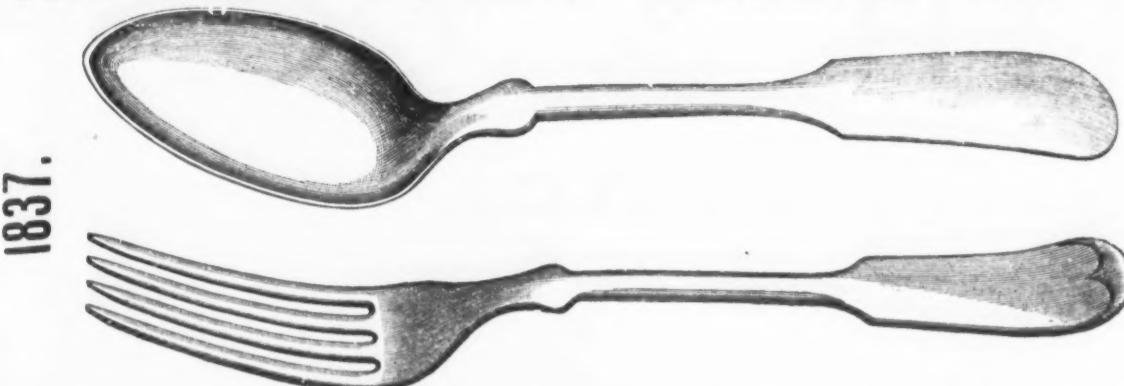
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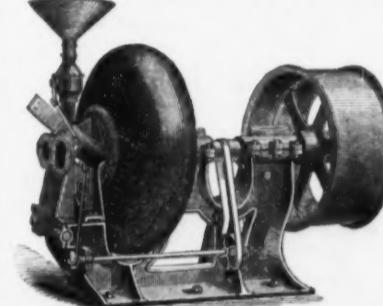
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For reducing to an impalpable powder all kinds of hard and brittle substances, such as QUARTZ, EMERY, CORUNDUM, GOLD AND SILVER ORES, BARYTES, COAL, OCHRE, MANGANESE, IRON ORES, &c.

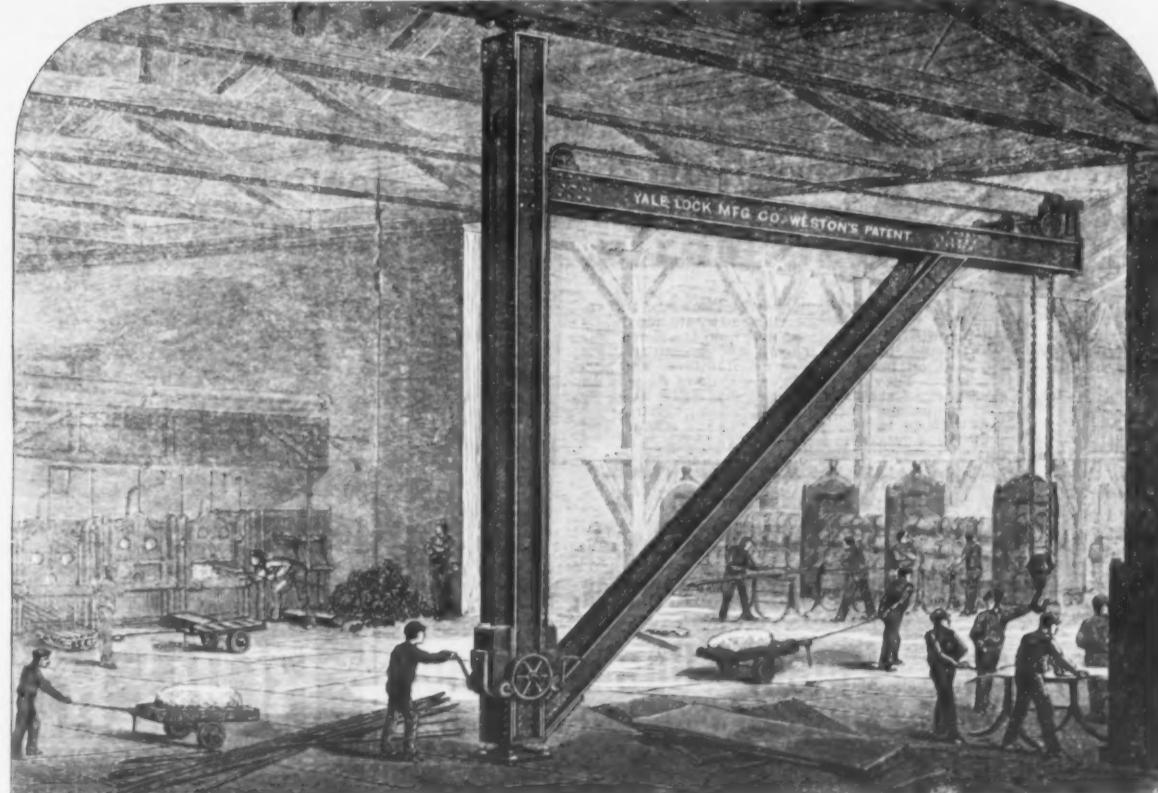
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It is simple and not liable to get out of order, Revolving Shell being constructed of Siemens-Martin steel, and all parts mechanical in design and of first-class construction. Weight, 5,500 lbs., heaviest piece, 1,500 lbs. It will pulverize **7 to 10 TONS IN 10 HOURS** with 30 H. P.

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Full Specification and Tender promptly submitted on receipt of information regarding Capacity, Height of Mast and Effective Radius required; also whether to be operated by hand or power.

JUST OUT.—A Preliminary Illustrated and Descriptive Circular of the Various Types of Cranes made by us, mailed on application.

### Standard Time.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Railway World*, writing on the above subject, which of late has received so much attention, remarks:

Anything more crude, uncertain and insufficient than the style now in use cannot be imagined. It is a relic of the Dark Ages, adopted centuries before a railroad or telegraph was thought of. Modern progress demands something better adapted to the wants of our present advanced civilization. Whatever change is made will doubtless be initiated by the railroads of this country, and, if it proves satisfactory, will eventually extend throughout the world; for which reason it is to be hoped that whatever action they may take in the matter will have so broad and catholic a basis as to admit of its universal adoption. In the discussions which have arisen in considering this problem, it has been conceded that the remedy lies in establishing a standard, or standards, of time of universal or local application. It must, I take it, be assumed that any plan or reformation which may be decided upon by the railroads of the country will encounter a strong opposition from the mass of the general public. The conservative feeling which makes people reluctant to surrender an established custom and adopt something different in its place would, I apprehend, prevent any legislation on the subject for some time to come. But, fortunately, it is not necessary that the laws of the country should be invoked in the matter. The question is one which primarily affects nothing but railroad schedules and railroad timetables, and is entirely within the control of each company or companies, respectively or collectively. Due regard, however, should be had for the public interests and convenience, and any change that is made should, so far as is possible, be in accord with the existing condition of things. It would seem as if the problem might be solved by adopting the recommendation which has been made, and ably advocated, of taking as the standard the astronomical time of Greenwich, England, according to which the day begins at noon and is divided into 24 hours, numbered from 1 to 24.

The Observatory at Greenwich furnishes the best known time that exists. It is exact, constant and known (or ascertainable) everywhere. It is used in astronomical observations and calculations, as the basis of tables used in navigation, and for mathematical and scientific purposes generally, so that its adoption by railroads would bring them into harmony with the other cosmopolitan pursuits of the world. I can foresee the objections likely to be urged against the adoption of Greenwich time. It would probably be contended, as it has been, that inasmuch as the hours of the day would run from 1 to 24 instead of the day being divided into halves of 12 hours each, as is the present civil day, great inconvenience would result to the public. And, further, that inasmuch as the clocks and watches throughout the country would all register the time at Greenwich, people would be going about their avocations at strange and unnatural hours. Now let us see what these objections amount to. I would, however, premise by saying that there is no use in ameliorating an evil if it can be as easily eradicated, and that any reform that is attempted cannot be too thorough if the best results are to be obtained. Some inconvenience will necessarily follow any change, and the compensating benefits should be made as great as possible. A clock is merely an instrument designed to measure the flight of time, generally having 12 grand divisions shown on a dial, covering the time from midnight to noon, and the converse. The particular names by which its several divisions or indicated periods are known is of but minor importance in comparison with the exactness of the information derived therefrom. Should Greenwich astronomical time be taken as the standard, 12 o'clock midnight would become the end of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth hour. Two o'clock a. m. (present style) the beginning of the fifteenth hour; 6 o'clock a. m. (present style) the beginning of the nineteenth hour, and so on around the circle. In a short time the people would become accustomed to speaking of the hours of the day in this way and the novelty of it would soon wear off.

According to the system proposed, if the sun set at Greenwich at the beginning of the seventh hour (6 p. m., present style) 15° west on the same parallel of latitude it would set one hour later, or at 7 p. m., present style; 30° west, two hours later; 75° west, five hours later, and so on to 60° east, where it would set 18 hours later, and simultaneously become visible at Greenwich six hours before the beginning of the next day. From this it will be seen that the hour of the day bears no conventional relation whatever, as at present, to the rising and the setting of the sun. To demonstrate the disadvantages attending the present style it is only necessary to instance the familiar illustration of a ship sailing around the world. If going west, the ship's log contains a record of a blank day—interpolated, in fact—while if sailing to the east a day has to be added, thus occasioning, to say the least, what should be an uncalled-for absurdity. Again, it daily occurs in the United States that we receive the morning intelligence of events which have taken place in Europe and Asia in the afternoon of the same day. If we read in the papers that something has transpired in even such well-known cities as London, Paris or Berlin at a given hour, how many persons know exactly when it did occur? The advantages which would result from the proposed change would be certainty and uniformity. There would no longer be any question about New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and so on or more other standards of time now in use by the railroads of the United States. By getting rid of a. m. and p. m. it would no longer be necessary to print railroad timetables with such devices as are now adopted to distinguish between night and day trains. Such notations as "the time between 12 o'clock noon and 12 o'clock midnight is indicated by heavy faced type," and "heavy rules on left hand of columns indicate trains between 6 p. m. and 6 a. m.," would no longer mystify and distract the average traveler.

In making the change suggested, it should be done simply in the interests of railroads, and care should be taken to make no attempt to force its acceptance upon the public by legislative enactment or otherwise. If the people throughout the land have local time which suits them, let them have the undisturbed enjoyment of it. Experience has fully demonstrated that railroad time is the standard which is in general use along the respective railroads of the country, and it would not be long before Greenwich time, if used by the railroads, would be used universally, to the exclusion of any other.

### A Well-Appointed Malleable Iron Works.

The Worcester Malleable Iron Company have nearly completed the erection of their new enterprise at East Worcester, west of Putnam Court, between the tracks of the Worcester and Shrewsbury and Boston and Albany railroads, where they have 70,000 feet of land for their works, adjoining both roads, on which they have a frontage of 462 feet, their lot being 166 feet wide at the west end between the two roads, and 123 feet wide at the east end. The ground was broken for the building of their works April 23, and within four months from that time they calculated to have them completed and in operation. The buildings consist of an office, 40 x 26 feet, located at the west end; molding shop, 167 x 50 feet, along the north side by the dummy track; the pattern shop and storeroom building, 130 x 25 feet, and two stories in height, extending east from the north end of and at right angles with the molding shop; the annealing shop, so x 50 feet, east of the pattern shop; the engine and boiler room, 20 x 20 feet, and core room 20 x 40 being between the molding and annealing shop. The annealing furnace chimney is 75 feet high, the boiler chimney 40 feet high, and the air furnace chimney is to be 100 feet high, it not yet being completed. The cupola furnace stack is 40 feet high. The cupola furnace is one of the Colligan patent, 34 inches in diameter inside the shell, and 24 inches inside the lining. They have put in one of Stewart's boilers of 35 horse-power, and are putting in one of B. W. Payne & Sons' horizontal steam engines of 25 horse-power, made at Corning, N. Y. In the first story of the pattern and storeroom building are to be the foreman's office, wash room for the workmen, pickling room, tumblers' room and general store-room, the latter at the south end; in the second story are to be the carpenters' rooms and pattern makers' rooms, the machine shop a general storeroom.

The molding shop is 15 feet high, surrounded by a monitor roof 15 feet high and 30 feet from the ground, and 20 feet wide, with glass windows along both sides, the building being supported from the top by trusses, with timbers of moderate but sufficient size, admitting all the light from above. The amount of light admitted into the molding shop may be judged from the fact that on the north side alone are 27 windows, each 12 x 4 feet, and the monitor windows have a surface of 280 x 5 1/2 feet, furnishing upward of 1500 square feet of additional lighting. The annealing shop has also a monitor roof and is similarly lighted. The office building is finished in hard pine shellacked; the walls and floor are being made fire-proof. In the office are rolling desks for the bookkeeper, superintendent and officers, and in the rear is a laboratory room, made specially proof against fire. The basement of the office building has a cemented floor, and is designed, by its protection against dampness, for a pattern room. In the rear of the office building is a shed for horses and carriages. Alongside the spur track connected with the Boston and Albany road is built a retaining wall for a coal shed, 80 x 15 feet, with ready access to the furnaces. The officers of the company are: Joseph P. Mason, president; Charles H. Bowker, treasurer; and Gottfried Lundberg, the architect of buildings, superintendent. The carpenter work of the structures was by H. W. Eddy; mason work by P. Foster White; plumbing by John J. Phelan; and both the slate and gravel roofing by George A. Barnard. The establishment, which will soon be in successful operation, comprises another important addition to the growing industries of Worcester, contributing largely to its business prosperity.

A gentleman who has just returned to San Francisco from a visit to Scotland is said to have successfully negotiated the transfer of a large area of California timber lands, for a sum aggregating between \$1,500,000 and \$1,750,000, to a recently organized corporation in Scotland, known as the California Redwood Company. The purchase embraces land, mills, tugs and other incidental accessories to the general lumber trade. The main object of the new enterprise is to meet the demand that is developing at Eastern and European capitals for fine redwood lumber for interior house finishing and ornamentation. It is only of late that outside attention has been given to the products of the Pacific Coast, and California redwood has rapidly gained favor among those by whom the study of fancy woods is accepted as partaking somewhat of aesthetic character and taste. In the whole world there are no known redwood forests outside of California. Carefully prepared official estimates give the quantity at 25,825,000,000 feet, and this amount is comprised in the coast belt that extends from Humboldt County, just below the Oregon line, down as far south as the Mexican border.

Birmingham, Ala., known as the Magic City, has had a growth not less remarkable than that of some of the famous Western towns. In 1873 it was a ragged village of 2500 inhabitants. In that year it was nearly depopulated by a cholera epidemic. An era of railroad building set in in the State, and the intersection of two lines there brought Birmingham's population up to 4000 in 1880. A census just completed gives the city, in 1883, 11,345 inhabitants. The assessed value of property has increased in three years from \$3,000,000 to \$8,300,000. The growth of the town is due to the development of the iron-ore and coal mines in the vicinity.

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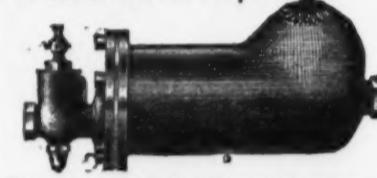
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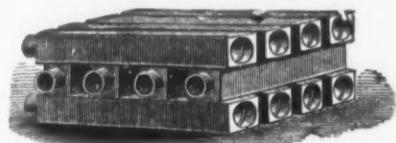
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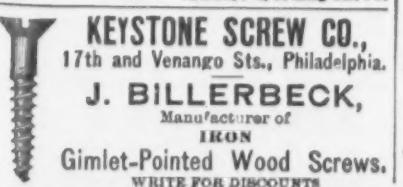
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### Overproduction.

If a cotton manufacturer be asked what is the cause of the present depression in that trade, he will reply, "overproduction." So will a leather manufacturer, a maker of woolens, a silk weaver, a carpet manufacturer, a steel maker and a wire-drawer. These trades and many others are suffering from a condition of partial paralysis. There is a demand for a limited quantity of the goods they can make, but only for a limited quantity, and, therefore, if some establishments run at full time, they do so at the expense of the trade of some others, which are obliged to cease doing business, perhaps temporarily, but often permanently. At such a time the concern which can place its goods in the market at lowest cost is master of the situation, and is, therefore, the fittest to survive. This peculiar and distressing condition of affairs always follows a season of feverish and heedless activity. A rush to buy enables the producer to advance his prices and to keep them up, and they always keep as high as they can be sustained. Manufacturing establishments consequently become abnormally profitable at such a time, and invite the investment of capital in extensions of existing works to bag bigger profits, or in the erection of new works to take a share of the good things going. One of two results then ensues—either the demand exhausts itself and diminishes, or the increase in the capacity of the works outruns the growth of the consumption of their products. In both cases the works are affected the same; they reduce prices and continue to reduce them, while buyers hold off and purchase as sparingly as possible, believing that they can buy cheaper the next week or the next month. Then come suspensions, failures and general depression.

These periodical convulsions in trade belong more particularly to our own time than to the remote past. When every household made its own homespun clothing and wove its own linen, when carpets were made on hand looms and were only seen in the homes of the wealthy, when iron was so scarce that metal pots and pans were cherished heirlooms, when travelers slowly journeyed from place to place on horseback or in clumsy vehicles, when money was seldom seen and exchanges were effected in goods, when banks were few and their deposits insignificant, there could have been no such occurrence as a great disturbance of trade through overproduction. The invention of the

steam engine, the development of machinery and the concentration of great productive power in closely-peopled factories; the introduction of railways and steam vessels, and the rapid and cheap conveyance of food and manufactured goods through their instrumentalities; the multiplication of banks and financial institutions, and the tremendous power of the large accumulations of money thus secured—all these, as well as other powerful agencies not so prominent, have had their influence in shaping our present splendid, but evidently unbalanced, industrial development. Railroads, banks and workshops depend so closely on one another that whatever affects one interest is felt by the others. They work hand in hand in extending civilization, in providing what we now believe to be the necessities of life, and in sustaining the great exchanges which perform nationally the same functions that are performed by the circulation of the blood in the human system. Periodically we have national debility, languor, health, exuberant vitality and high fever.

This condition of affairs seems to be inevitable and incurable. The nation is now apparently in a condition of languor. No artificial remedy can be applied. Recovery of health must come naturally. The experience of the past teaches us that it will only come through the gradual shrinkage of production until it is on a parity with the diminished consumption, or through the natural increase of consumption. These are slow, painful and disagreeable processes. If the restriction of production could be so regulated by some controlling power that it would take place uniformly, there would still be trouble, because there are works encumbered with debts whose income would not then be large enough to clear their liabilities. These are the establishments which may be expected to succumb first under the diminished demand and unremunerative prices. Badly-located or badly-managed works will follow next, and at last well-equipped and well-managed and well-located works will, here and there, be forced to yield if the level of consumption is not touched by previous suspensions. There can be no safeguard erected against these inevitable trade convulsions. They seem to be inseparable from present economic conditions, and could only be prevented by the non-accumulation of capital, the suspension of fresh territorial development, or the destruction of all enterprise and ambition. As long as money collects in masses in the hands of banks or capitalists, as long as there are inviting fields for profitable investment, and as long as there are enterprising or ambitious spirits to conceive and direct business ventures, there will be extensions of manufactures whenever favorable conditions exist, to be invariably followed by overproduction and depression.

### Material Development in the South.

It is very gratifying to observe in the Southern press constant testimony of the great change which the last few years have wrought in the industries of the South. The cotton crop is no longer regarded as almost the sole dependence of that section of the Union, but manufactures are receiving the attention to which they are justly entitled. The magnificent natural resources of the vast empire which stretches from the Potomac to the Rio Grande are being developed, and every paying investment attracts fresh brains and more capital to its vicinity. With the advance of the industrial era comes a demand for better means of transportation, and the multiplication of railroads and the better equipment of old lines have grown apace. The activity which has thus been freshly imparted to the South has borne fruit in other directions. Farmers have awakened to the fact that wheat, corn, fruit and vegetables can be raised and disposed of at profitable prices, and now the South is almost independent of the West for its supply of breadstuffs, while its shipments of fruit and vegetables to the North are yearly increasing and bring much gain to the enterprising growers. Improved agricultural methods go hand in hand with the diversification of industry, and it is safe to predict that the cotton crop of the South will be all the larger, under favorable climatic conditions, for the attention given to other crops and the progressive ideas received by farmers, who have at length been convinced that they can learn something new about their own business. This conclusion is proved by the fact that last season's cotton crop was the largest ever produced, falling but a few bales short of 7,000,000. The crop this year will be smaller, as the weather has been unfavorable, but coming seasons will see these figures greatly exceeded. And the more of this crop that is manufactured where it is raised the greater will be the gain of those who raise it, and, therefore, the stronger will be the inducement to continue its cultivation. The growth of the South in the manufacture of cotton goods is shown by the statement that 40 per cent. more bales were used by Southern cotton spinners last season than in the one previous. The total number of spindles added to cotton machinery in the United States last year was 660,000, of which 180,000 were taken by Southern States.

Cotton will continue to be the leading crop of the South, but in addition to the "pitch, tar and turpentine" of the Carolinas, the sugar of Louisiana and the rice of the Savannahs, the agriculturists of the Southern States will also from year to year reap

increasing benefit from the vegetables of the South Atlantic coast, the fruit of Georgia and Florida and the breadstuffs of the interior. Sheep and neat cattle are being raised in increasing numbers, and enable a profit to be realized on land either unfit for cultivation or unsuitably located for tillage. And all over the South the workers in mill, factory, furnace, shop and forge are forming a distinct class of consumers of agricultural products and dispensers of money, whose influence is being felt in the greater abundance of currency and the gradual abolition of the primitive system of barter which has prevailed there from time immemorial. The influence of the Atlanta Exposition has had a great deal to do with the rapid extension of Southern manufacture, which had long before that time been started, but were developing rather slowly. One man, Mr. E. P. Howell, of Atlanta, states that he personally knows of \$8,000,000 which have been invested in Georgia as a direct result of that exposition, and that sum by no means marks the limit of investments thus influenced. The Louisville Exposition, which is now in progress, will continue the good work begun at Atlanta and direct fresh attention to the wealth-making opportunities in the South, and next year the New Orleans Exposition will keep the ball rolling. The South is moving energetically in the direction of progress, and its future is one of unbounded promise.

### The Wire Trade.

The situation in iron and steel wire is one of marked depression. This depression is perhaps more strongly defined than in almost any other branch of the iron and steel trades. The demand is very much below the capacity of the mills, and prices are lower than has ever before been known in this country. For instance, No. 12 plain steel wire has been sold, delivered in Chicago, at under 3½ cents per pound. Not only is this price phenomenally low for American wire, but it is also lower than the price of foreign wire of the same quality, if it could be delivered in Chicago free of duty. It goes almost without saying that wire is now sold at less than cost to any but the best organized mills. The remedy for this state of affairs which can be most easily applied is no doubt in curtailed output, which has already been done by the larger mills. The largest wire mills in the country are those of the Washburn & Moen Mfg. Company, at Worcester, Mass.; the Gautier Steel Department of the Cambria Iron Company, at Johnstown, Pa.; the Oliver Wire Company, at Pittsburgh, Pa.; the Cleveland Rolling Mill Company, at Cleveland, Ohio; and the New Haven Wire Company, at New Haven, Conn. These five establishments turn out about two-thirds of the wire produced in the United States. Their curtailment of output is not only the result of intention, but also of accident, the works of the New Haven Wire Company having recently been burned, but are in course of rebuilding. Fire has quite busy among wire mills lately, as those of R. H. Wolff & Co., at Annville, N. Y., and the works at Spencer, Mass., have also been destroyed by it. The curtailment of production, however, will have to be much greater than has yet been effected to secure recovery from the existing depression.

The manufacture of wire, like the manufacture of steel rails, owes its expansion to the unfortunate "boom" of 1879 and 1880. The demand for wire for fencing along the lines of the railroads which were then put under construction, both from railroads and from settlers, grew extraordinarily fast, and wire mills doubled and trebled their machinery to keep up with their orders. Price advanced, the business was profitable, there was an abundance of work, and other people improved the opportunity and put up wire mills. The subsidence of the railroad fever not only seriously and directly affected the wire mills, but it also indirectly affected them through other industries with which the manufacture of wire sympathizes. The general dullness in business extends to wire as well as everything else. Merchants and consumers hesitate to order stocks of wire ahead in times of slow sales, just as they decline to carry stocks of bar iron under the same circumstances. The uncertain condition of the barbed-wire litigation also has a tendency to induce stagnation. Heavy interests are involved in the early settlement of this question, but it is now in such shape that no prediction can be hazarded as to when the final decree may be expected. Meantime the manufacture of barbed wire goes on, of course, but not so briskly as it undoubtedly would if makers and users were sure they would not some time be called to account and have to pay heavy royalties. The uncertainty of the situation may be learned from the statement that a year ago the license of a barbed-wire works, making 10,000 tons annually, was sold for \$150,000, but it would probably not now bring one-tenth of that amount. The stagnation in the wire trade and the current low prices may also be traced to another cause. Under the fear that the duty on steel-wire rods would be greatly increased, many wire makers last winter ordered and received a year's stock of rods. Having bought the rods and invested their money, they are bound to realize, and therefore are obliged to make and sell wire, even though they do not receive actual cost. This condition of affairs will right itself gradually with the exhaustion of material or of capital, and may be regarded as temporary and incidental in its character.

The low price of wire naturally leads to the query: If steel wire is now made here as cheap as foreign wire can be imported, why do we not export wire? The cost of making wire for export can be still further reduced by making application for a rebate of the duty paid on the imported rods of which it is made. A rebate of nine-tenths of the duty is allowed; therefore an export trade is possible. Some wire is exported at present, and if the depression in the domestic trade continues, or grows worse, an increasing quantity will be sent abroad. It must be borne in mind that it is a very few years since steel wire was first made in this country. The Cleveland Rolling Mill Company were the pioneers in this direction, and they put up a wire mill to dispose of their steel-rail ends, which were accumulating so rapidly that it was difficult to use them all in the way commonly adopted at Bessemer steel works. The wants of the country have not been fully supplied by the steel-wire makers until within the past two years. Now, however, as our mills can make much more than we need, outside markets will be sought, and they will evidently be sought with characteristic American vigor. We hope that relief may come to the wire trade through domestic channels as well as through an export demand. If the farmers are in good financial condition this fall, they will be in the market for wire fencing as well as for general goods, and the stimulus thus imparted to trade will be felt all along the line, and will stiffen prices and insure an expanded consumption, regardless of slow-moving courts and tedious litigation. The turn in the trade may not be far off, as experience shows that any goods will not long be sold under cost.

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### British Rail Exports.

Recent developments in the export rail trade of Great Britain show conclusively that the iron-rail trade is now very near extinction. The whole of the exports, in fact, are at present estimated as being less than would a few years ago have been turned out by one of the many mills then at work in the different districts. The falling off in iron rails was gradual, and for a number of years past a steady decline was experienced; but it is only lately that there has been a drop in the total exports of rails. Re-viewing the figures relative to the iron-rail exports for the first seven months of the past three years, we find that the quantities shipped amounted to 18,570 tons, 36,013 tons and 82,939 tons, respectively, showing a total decline since 1881 of some 64,360 tons. The falling off, it appears, was experienced in connection with almost all the countries enumerated in the statistical returns, being most marked so far as the United States are concerned, but those countries which were not enumerated specifically, but were grouped as "other countries," showed an increase. From a total of 2852 tons in the first seven months of 1881, the amounts shipped to these countries rose to 5098 tons in the same period of 1882 and to 8576 tons in 1883, an increase worthy of some attention, pointing, as it does, to a possibly very important growth of Great Britain's export trade in this direction. Though not indicated by these figures, it is more than probable that steel rails also will be taken by these countries in increasing quantities, and the anything but cheerful outlook for Great Britain's iron-rail trade is thus modified to some extent.

Careful inspection of the statement of British exports of iron and steel rails for the first seven months of the year shows that the demand from Russia has ceased almost entirely; Germany also has practically ceased to supply her wants from British sources, while Spain, Sweden, Norway have taken increased quantities, the Spanish imports, in fact, being almost double those for the corresponding period of last year. Italy, though absorbing considerable quantities, has rather diminished her requirements this year, and the United States show a total decline of about 84,000 tons, as compared with the exports of last year. Brazil and British North America both show a comparatively slight falling off, British India and Australia, on the other hand, having taken increased shipments. The record for the other "countries," previously small consumers, shows that there has been a rapidly-increasing demand since 1881, and for the present year the exports amounted to 138,648 tons. Taken altogether, the exports of steel rails during the first seven months of the present year amounted to 456,024 tons, being some 24,000 tons in excess of the exports of last year. Still, it is by no means safe to predict a satisfactory result at the end of the year, and the circumstance that the requirements for new railways have been greatly reduced will undoubtedly have an appreciable effect in modifying the figures. At the present time, however, it is thought that the low prices now prevailing may possibly stimulate purchases, and thus bring about a favorable result. On the whole, Great Britain now seems to realize the fact that her foreign customers for rails are gradually growing less in number, and that future fields of enterprise must be sought in the many smaller countries which hitherto have had little, if any, importance as affecting the condition of her export rail trade.

The question of the value of petroleum for fuel is a very interesting one, and has been a promised field for speculation. In recent discussions on the subject the pros and cons have been pretty clearly gone over. It seems that ordinary coal oil with the exact amount of atmospheric air necessary for perfect combustion will produce 22,700 heat-units with an elevation of temperature of 54.8 F., on the supposition that the combustion could take place at this temperature. In combustion with steam, practically the same result as burning in air is obtained. In practice it is calculated that 21,460 heat units will be available, which is equal to the evaporation of 22.21 pounds of water from and at 212 F. With a coal containing 83 per cent. of carbon and 5 per cent. of hydrogen, we have what is equivalent to 13½ pounds of water evaporated from and at 212 F. The efficiency of the coal to that of the petroleum is as 1 to 1.64. Allowing for imperfect combustion, &c., it is computed that the actual values are as 1 to 2. At English prices, with coal at 15/ a ton, or, say, \$3.75, and petroleum at about 6d., or 12 cents a gallon, it is found that 16 cents worth of coal, or 100 pounds, will equal about 12½ gallons of petroleum costing \$1.50 in England. The

verdict of the coroner's jury in the Riverdale explosion case is curious enough. It attributes the disaster to the failure of Engineer Taulman and United States Inspector Cauldwell to perform their duties. The jurors were not unanimous in censuring the engineer, but there was no difference of opinion among them as to the negligence and responsibility of the inspector. This seems fair enough at first sight; but what share has the engineer in the responsibility? Was it his business to point out to the inspector defects which the inspector should have seen for himself? He would have lost his position had he done so, and it is doubtful if the inspector would have taken the trouble to verify his statements. If the inspectors are supposed to rely on what the engineers tell them, we might as well let the engineers make out the certificates. We are not surprised, however, that the jury find the present system of inspection, as prescribed by the United States law and performed by United States inspectors, "inadequate to the due protection of life." Obviously. Every system which may be tried will be found inadequate until the law is simplified to single provision, which fixes the responsibility in the event of an explosion where it belongs—on the owner or owners who cannot show that they have taken all reasonable and proper precautions of safety.

### The Condition of the Iron Trade.

During the past week there have been no developments of importance in connection with the sale of iron and steel. Trade moves along in about the same proportions as last week. A little more activity is displayed in some lines, but there is a little less in others, so that general conditions have not changed. Under the circumstances, there could be no significant fluctuations in prices expected. At such times as these, when prices are very close to cost and sales are made with difficulty, there is an increasing tendency among manufacturers to deal directly with the consumer, and thus avoid a division of their very small profits with sales agents and brokers. Consequently, a greater degree of dullness may appear to prevail than is really the case, if only sales on commission or by dealers are taken into consideration. For instance, at present many dealers report a complete absence of orders, and it might be inferred from such a condition of affairs that the consumption of iron and steel was almost at a standstill, when the fact is shown by careful inquiry that the country is using within 10 to 15 per cent. of what it did last year. If one-eighth of the capacity of our iron and steel works could be eliminated, there is no doubt that prices would be buoyant and sellers would be sought.

There is a little ground for hopefulness in the encouraging reports of the condition of general business which come to us from many sources. The iron and steel trades naturally sympathize with other branches of business, and if the latter continue to improve they will exert a beneficial effect on the former. Meanwhile the situation is one of perplexity and uncertainty.

The idea of establishing a Government factory for the construction of guns at the Washington Navy Yard is not likely to be carried out. In fact, the reports thus far received from the Board of Ordnance officers who were sent abroad to inspect the gun factories of other countries—notably Krupp's, at Essen—are such as to give very little encouragement to the plan. The general expectation seems to have been that little, if any, difficulty would be experienced in the work of inspecting these establishments, and that the methods there adopted would be exhibited without hesitation. The board, however, were not long in learning that it is an inflexible rule that foreign military officers shall not be allowed to acquaint themselves with such particulars. At Krupp's works, for example, only a part of the operations are shown, and the erecting shops and projectile

actual cost of evaporating a given quantity of water with petroleum, then, will be 4.63 times as much as with coal. In New York City 100 pounds of coal would cost 25 cents, and the 12 gallons of petroleum would cost, say, \$1.25, which would make the cost of evaporating a given quantity of water with petroleum five times as much as with coal. In regard to the space occupied by petroleum, mistakes have been made, and in bunkers at sea there will be very little difference between anthracite coal and petroleum.

How to fight fire in the tops of buildings ranging anywhere from 80 to 120 feet is a problem with which the city of New York finds itself face to face, and, unfortunately, without any apparent feasible answer. Fourteen years ago the outline of New York City, seen from the Bay, showed only one or two buildings projecting above the others against the sky. The most noticeable was the then recently completed Equitable Life Insurance Building. Now, from almost any point in the East or North rivers, fifteen or twenty enormous buildings may be seen towering above their neighbors. Many of these buildings are what their names indicate, really fire-proof, having brick and iron floors and being measurably safe from fire. Others, however—and these, perhaps, are not the most lofty—are a perfect wilderness of wooden floors and partitions. When a conflagration is started and the circumstances for its spread are favorable, New York will probably see one of the most tremendous fires that history records. Just now, with a scant water supply and with the most dangerous property situated at a distance from our rivers, it is very difficult to see how the city has escaped so long. Underwriters and firemen are alike turning their eyes to the mechanical engineer, and asking whether some safeguard is not possible which can be applied before the long-promised and much-needed aqueduct is completed.

It is well to have a good deal of science brought to bear on all our modern inventions. In fact, all that we can possibly have will be none too much. The latest criticism on electric light is worthy of serious attention. It is from a doctor, we suppose, as it is credited to the London *Lancet*, which believes the naked electric light is fatal to the eyes, is too hard, "the waves of motion are too short, and the out-stroke joins the in-stroke at too acute an angle." It is now in order for Mr. Brush and Mr. Weston to alter their electric lights so as to make the "waves of motion" longer, and to make the joining of the "out-stroke and in-stroke" form a wider angle. Probably the writer in the *Lancet* sees the point, and perhaps Messrs. Weston and Brush will likewise see the point, but a vague suspicion hovers in our mind that the point the electric-light men see is not exactly the point the *Lancet* man had in mind when writing this stupendous piece of information.

The bisulphide-of-carbon engine is again putting in an appearance in mechanical circles, and we believe a Boston firm is this time trying to work it. We are sorry. Somebody will undoubtedly spend money without getting any return, except from stock speculation, and the stock buyers will be sold in a very unfortunate manner. The enormous pressure which bisulphide of carbon gives at a moderate temperature often deceives even mechanical experts in regard to the feasibility of using it for the production of power. Unfortunately the physical characteristics of the vapor are such as to give no advantage whatever over steam as a fluid for actuating an engine. This disappointing result has been arrived at many times by practical men, and recently one of our leading consulting engineers arrived at the same conclusion from mathematical investigation based on certain known characteristics of the liquid and its vapor.

In his report on the trade and commerce of Venice, Vice-Consul de Zuccato gives many particulars illustrating the remarkable revival in that city of the art industries for which Venice was once so renowned. The most noteworthy are glass manufactures, mosaics, colored enamels, pottery, artistic castings, furniture, lace and the copying of ancient brocades and damasks, recalling the glorious days of the Republic when the Venetian looms produced magnificent stuffs, embossed with gold, silver or silk, which the Doges sent as gifts to foreign potentates. The art, which was entirely lost, was rediscovered in 1857, and is now recovering some of its ancient splendor. Bead-making alone, which, in spite of all efforts to manufacture this article elsewhere, has always been the special privilege of the Venetians, gives at this time in Venice employment to about 15,000 persons.

As between China and France "the combat thickens." China is moving quietly and with deliberation, as is her wont in all matters pertaining to her internal polity, but she is apparently none the less determined to repudiate the so-called protectorate of Annam. She is well armed with Peabody and Martini-Henry rifles, and France will encounter in the Chinese navy "a foe worthy of her steel." Aside from large quantities of cartridges sent out from New York City, our local dealers in warlike materials deny that any considerable shipments of arms or ammunition have been made for several years on Chinese account, but this week 400,000 cartridges and 100 cases of firearms, in addition to other material, were sent out by steamer from San Francisco. The French Minister gives notice that all merchandise of this character is contraband.

### The Louisville Exhibition.

A correspondent sends us the following interesting notes concerning the exhibition now in progress in Louisville, Ky.:

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Sept. 12, 1883.  
To the Editor of *The Iron Age*: The attendance at the exposition for the first month has been fairly good, quite equal to the expectations of the directory and others interested. On September 1, the opening day of the second month, over 20,000 people passed through the turn-stiles. The Louisville ladies were out in full force, dressed in the most delicate and airy costumes. Every village for miles around seems to have turned out for this special occasion. They kept pouring in all the afternoon, when the crowd was augmented in the evening by the business men and mechanics of the city, and yet there was nothing special going on. There was a general feeling abroad that the exposition was not ready and would not be until September, and this may partly account for the great throng on that day.

Expositions nowadays are so numerous that it is difficult to make them interesting. Those who visited the Centennial and were especially interested in industrial art at every turn were sure to come upon something interesting and valuable. This feature of the Centennial Exposition, I am sorry to say, is poorly represented here. It was not to be expected, of course, that the South would be represented by many examples of industrial art of their own design and manufacture, but that so few exhibitors abroad should have taken advantage of this opportunity to show their goods is strange. Lockwood D. Forest, of New York, has a very handsome display of East Indian wool carving and artistic metal work. Williamson Art Metal Works, of this city, have also a fine exhibit of their bronze decorations. These displays are very much admired, but, unfortunately, are very poorly placed; not one in 500 ever sees them. There seem to have been a certain fatality about arranging the display. Cheap dry goods, soda water, cider men and fruit men enjoy the cream. Some of the most interesting exhibits illustrative of Louisville manufacture are consigned to the galleries. Fisher, Leaf & Co. and the Louisville Mantle and Casket Company have both excellent displays of iron and slate mantles, all their own manufacture. Both companies show good taste in getting up their exhibits. The stove trade ought to be better represented. There are only three exhibitors—Terstege, Gohmann & Co., Bridgeford & Co., and the Lithgow Manufacturing Company. There are some dealers who also exhibit stoves and tinware, but these are the only manufacturers. Terstege, Gohmann & Co. have a fine show. Strange to say, Bridgeford & Co. are the only stove firm on the lower floor. They have a good exhibit of their specialties, and also of the "Royal Garlands." The combined furniture display is a good one. The work is good, both in design and execution, but the carving is a little heavy. Mersereau, of New York, has a fair exhibit of brass goods. A very elaborate brass bedstead forms the principal attraction.

The lower floor is, of course, the principal part of the exposition, and it will be simply impossible to give any idea of this in one letter. Getting off the main avenue, you come across some exceedingly interesting exhibits. The leather display, an industry that Louisville is proud of, is very fine. One of the most handsome exhibits in the building is McKnight's carpet display. The rugs and carpets and curtains are by far the finest ever seen in the West. This display represents the best that Turkey, Persia or India can produce, and the goods are shown to good advantage in a handsome pavilion. The drug men make quite a good display. Powers & Whiteman and J. B. Wilder & Co. have the principal exhibits. What, of course, is the most interesting, and what this exposition is intended to illustrate, is the resources of the South.

The State exhibits are quite interesting. The Alabama display (exhibited by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad), illustrating the mineral and vegetable products of the State, is thorough. Every species of tree found in the State is shown by cross and longitudinal sections, natural size, with leaf, flower and fruit named scientifically. Botanists will understand how thoroughly this work is done when they know that Dr. Chas. H. Mohr, of Mobile, Ala., had the arrangement of this part of the display. Several specimens of Alabama iron and coal are also shown. Arkansas has a fine exhibit, and Florida is well represented. Kentucky might have been better represented, although Professor Proctor did everything in his power to make a creditable show with the means at his command. The falls of the Ohio have a reputation over all the scientific world as being very rich in certain geological formations, but the directory, thinking there was no money in geology, ignored the local committee. With our facilities we ought to have had one of the best scientific exhibitions, especially in geology, ever seen in this country. The United States Government display, as an educational feature, is good—in fact, could not be better.

The exhibition of agricultural implements are, of course, quite large, and all the principal makers are well represented in this line. The machinery department is also very complete. The woolen, cotton and silk machinery is especially interesting and there is always a crowd of visitors around it. At night, when the whole is illuminated with the electric light, it is undoubtedly very beautiful. The Edison Electric Light Company have the contract for lighting the exhibition. There are 400 lights in the building, which make everything look as bright as by daylight. The electric railway is another novelty. This is owned by MacGregor Adams, of the Adams & Westlake Company, Chicago. The track is laid around Central Park. The train is composed of an engine and two cars, the large dynamo being placed in the front part. The engine is made after the model of a railroad engine, but any other shape would have done as well. The trip is made in four minutes. Central Park is in itself a beautiful place; it covers about 18 acres and is richly wooded with about 60 species of forest trees, mostly native. These trees are marked with their common and scientific names.

The art gallery is situated at the north end of the park, and it is conceded that the finest collection of paintings ever seen west of the mountains is gathered here. A glance through the art catalogue will convince any art lover of this fact. The American Art Union is well represented by some excellent work. The Art Committee is to be commended for both the display and the arrangement. The statuary, vases, tapestries, bronzes, &c., are most artistically placed. The people of Louisville appreciate the kindness of those gentlemen who have lent their valuable collections for this display, and cordially invite all to come and witness it.

L. E.

### Condition of General Manufactures.

Accounts gathered by *Bradstreet's* from all parts of the country respecting the condition of our manufacturing interests are, on the whole, of a very cheering character. After the many doubts and surmises expressed during the tedious days of midsummer, and again suggested by the tardy opening of the autumn trade, it was but natural to indulge in a certain degree of solicitude in regard to the business future. Any apprehensions on this score, it would now appear, may as well be dismissed. The occasional failures here and there throughout the country prove to be sporadic in their character, due either to indiscretion or recklessness, and do not in any sense indicate the general prevalence of conditions prejudicial to any legitimate transactions. It is true that in some lines—we may specify the manufacture of machinists' tools—there is a dearth of orders not before experienced for several years. The accumulation of orders for months ahead, despite the employment of extra hands, is a circumstance now rarely heard of. But there is now a turn in the trade, apparently, and manufacturers evince more disposition to enlarge their scale of operations. So, too, of merchants handling the products of skilled industry. For one thing, it is known that these classes are more fully employing their resources, as shown by their more frequent applications at the banks with paper for discount. The inference is unavoidable that there are assurances of a more ready market—the foremost impulse given by the ripening crops, in a year of almost unprecedented abundance.

Looking at particular localities, we find that the strongest impetus is found where it would most naturally be expected—in or contiguous to the granaries of the Northwest.

There we most frequently find new establishments for the manufacture of agricultural implements starting up; also new foundries and machine shops. Through its correspondents, *Bradstreet's* has received advice from 75 leading points, which we briefly epitomize. At Boston every leading industry is supplied with orders. All classes of ironworkers are busy. Machine shops, boiler works, blacksmiths and nailers are all well employed, though there is a lack of large orders in the two first. The jobbing iron business is quite active. The nail mills are behind orders in several sizes, and their business during the summer has been considerably ahead of last year. At New Haven the volume of business is equal to that of 1881, but not to that of 1882, principally in the medium and better grades of goods. Manufacturers of hardware are generally running on full time. At Albany the production and sale of stoves is somewhat in excess of last fall. Orders are being received daily, and the demand is equal to the supply. Full forces of men are engaged. At Rochester, N. Y., manufacturers of machinery, masons' tools, and general ironworkers, report trade for the year active, fully as much business being done as last year, with good prices, and the trade has a healthy look. At Syracuse wagon manufacturing is depressed, and in the iron trade most of the furnaces are out of blast. At Utica present indications point to a volume of trade equaling that of the fall of 1881 or 1882. Stove manufacturers are busy, working mainly on orders, which for August were in excess of those in the same month in any preceding year. Other lines are reported to be satisfactory. At Newark, N. J., manufacturers of steam engines and machinery are running at full capacity, and report business very good, some of them having more orders than they can conveniently fill. The leading manufacturers of hardware specialties report this season's business the best they ever had, dealers buying freely, and, as a rule, with plenty of means to pay promptly. The outlook is good, and manufacturers feel very much encouraged.

At Philadelphia machine shops and car works are well employed, with good prospects. The shipyards are fairly busy. The glass works of New Jersey have started up with splendid prospects for fall business, but the directory, thinking there was no money in geology, ignored the local committee. With our facilities we ought to have had one of the best scientific exhibitions, especially in geology, ever seen in this country. The United States Government display, as an educational feature, is good—in fact, could not be better.

The exhibition of agricultural implements are, of course, quite large, and all the principal makers are well represented in this line. The machinery department is also very complete. The woolen, cotton and silk machinery is especially interesting and there is always a crowd of visitors around it. At night, when the whole is illuminated with the electric light, it is undoubtedly very beautiful. The Edison Electric Light Company have the contract for lighting the exhibition. There are 400 lights in the building, which make everything look as bright as by daylight. The electric railway is another novelty. This is owned by MacGregor Adams, of the Adams & Westlake Company, Chicago. The track is laid around Central Park. The train is composed of an engine and two cars, the large dynamo being placed in the front part. The engine is made after the model of a railroad engine, but any other shape would have done as well. The trip is made in four minutes. Central Park is in itself a beautiful place; it covers about 18 acres and is richly wooded with about 60 species of forest trees, mostly native. These trees are marked with their common and scientific names.

contracts on hand than ever before for marine engines and machinery. There is no material change in the bolt, nut and tool industry. Business reported very good, but prices are too low to afford satisfactory profits.

At Springfield, Ohio, the cupola furnaces, manufacturers of malleable castings and all kinds of agricultural implements are in excellent shape. At Toledo, architectural-iron works are behind with orders, running full force extra hours. Men of the edge-tool manufacturers are all employed and prospects good, and the engine-builders' business is better by 6 per cent. The mill-machinery manufacturing business is prosperous. The mower and reaper manufacturers are doing a prosperous business, which is increasing. The increase in trade of plow manufacturers is 8 to 10 per cent., and of pump manufacturers 10 per cent.; outlook good. The sewing-machine manufacturing business is increasing and the outlook is encouraging. At Chicago, Ill., in most branches goods are not turned out in advance of orders. The steel-rail mills are producing less than 50 per cent. of their full capacity, and the same may be said of most other manufacturers of railroad-track goods, while car and locomotive materials are in good demand. The bar mills are, with few exceptions, running on full time, and report a good demand for their products. The nail mills have been running on full time since August 17.

Manufacturers of engines, pumps, boilers, and all classes of iron piping, elevators and hoisting apparatus, say they have sufficient orders to satisfy their productive capacity. Stove founders are all working full time, and a few report an increase of 5 to 10 per cent. At Peoria, Ill., agricultural-implement manufacturing will be on a par with last year, but no increase of trade is looked for. At Springfield, Ill., the outlook is better for all, including the iron industry, than it was one year ago. At Detroit, iron manufacturers are running full and doing a fair business, but with very little profit, though prices are firm. Better things are looked for very soon. Manufacturers consulted, employing from 12,000 to 15,000 persons, anticipate a good, steady, legitimate business for the next four months at least. At Evansville, Ind., foundry men say they are running on full time, with orders ahead. Surely, accepting the foregoing as faithful portraiture of the present condition of manufacturing, so far as pertains to the hardware and iron industries, there is no reason for complaint.

### SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL.

#### The Effect of Lightning on Trees.

The frequency of thunder storms in Switzerland this summer has afforded Professor Colladon, of Geneva, a great authority on electricity and meteorology, ample opportunity of continuing his observations on the effect of lightning on trees and vegetation generally. He has ascertained that when lightning strikes a tree it leaves very few marks of its passage on the upper part and middle of the trunk, a peculiarity which he ascribes to the fact of those parts being more impregnated with sugar, a good conductor, than the lower part. As the electric fluid descends to the neighborhood of the heavier branches, where there is less saccharine matter, it tears open the bark and in many instances shivers the tree. It is an uncommon thing to find the lower part of a tree literally cut by the lightning, while the upper portion and the higher branches seem to have suffered hardly at all. Oaks, however, would appear to present an exception to this rule, for they are often found with tops quite blasted and the passage of the lightning lower down marked by a gouge-like furrow. These furrows sometimes go completely round the tree like a screw, the reason of which is said to be that the lightning follows the cells of which the bark is composed lengthwise and in certain sorts of wood these cells are disposed spirally.

#### Trouvé's Rheostat.

A very useful rheostat devised by M. Trouvé, the well-known Parisian inventor, is described in a recent number of *Engineering*. It consists of a German-silver spring inclosed in a nickel-plated tube, the spirals not being allowed to touch each other, and insulated from the tube by a pasteboard sheathing. Inside the spring is a rubbing contact formed of a metal rod split into four parts, like the split plugs of a resistance box. This rod is graduated in divisions. The current enters at one end of the spring, traverses it, the rubbing contact and the graduated rod. When the rod is deeply inserted into the spiral coil, the current only traverses a few turns, and the resistance is very small; but when the rod is pulled out the number of turns inserted is considerable. The divisions on the scale tell the number of turns in circuit. The device is employed by Trouvé, in connection with his polystopes, to regulate the strength of current supplied by a small Planté accumulator. The plan of splitting the rubbing contact is worthy of attention by electricians.

#### Storm Sounds in Telephones.

A correspondent of *L'Ingenieur* *Conseil*, signing himself with the initials "E. B.," occupied himself, during a violent thunder storm which occurred at Brussels some months ago, in listening to the storm sounds in a telephone wire. It was furnished with a good lightning conductor, and, under such circumstances, he is convinced that the experiment was not attended with danger. During the height of the storm there was a continuous noise, which could only be compared to that of frying. From time to time it would grow louder; sometimes there would be a little popping sound, like a bubble bursting; sometimes the series of crackling noises which follow the fall of a drop of grease on a red-hot iron plate. This last noise came abruptly and loud with each flash of lightning, and seemed to precede it. The observer was satisfied that he could hear the sound before he could see the flash. The same noise was often produced when there was no accompanying flash, but then they were less loud. Their force seemed to have no connection with the peals of thunder. On the 600 lines of telephone wire which focus at Brussels not one apparatus was damaged by the storm, its effects being alto-

gether expended upon the lightning conductors and storm-warning apparatus. This security may encourage other observers to follow the example of "E. B.," who considers that in this manner it is possible to obtain valuable contributions to the study of atmospheric electricity. He is of opinion that the constant noise heard in the wires proves the existence in them of a current of atmospheric electricity flowing into the earth, and that a network of telephone lines overspreading a town would be its best possible protection against lightning.

#### Comparative Strength of Minnesota and New England Granites.

Mr. N. H. Winchell, of Minneapolis, Minn., recently had occasion to test the qualities of the building stones of Minnesota, and the results obtained are interesting in many respects. Mr. Winchell subjected the stones to the usual tests of crushing, and used for this purpose specimens consisting of 2-inch cubes. These specimens included sandstones, limestones, granites and trap rocks to the number of about 100. Great care was taken in preparing them, and they were sent to General Gilmore, at Staten Island, and there subjected to the tests, which were applied by crushing the samples, one in the direction of the schistose structure and one across it. Taking the average of the results of 20 samples of Minnesota granites, it appears that the strength of a cubic inch was equal to 26,675 pounds. Allowing 11 per cent. difference between the process of crushing between steel plates and wooden cushions, this gives an average for Minnesota granites of 23,318 pounds. Testing New England granites gave for the average of 20 specimens a strength per cubic inch of 14,946 pounds. After discussing several probable sources of error, Mr. Winchell suggested causes why the Minnesota granites may be stronger than those of New England, and among other things stated that those of the Western regions may have been less changed by decay. The lateness of the glaciation to which they were exposed may have left them comparatively fresh through the recent removal of a considerable thickness.

#### The Temperature of Tunnels.

A Geneva correspondent of the London *Times* remarks that at the instance of the Simplon Railway Company a commission of experts have compiled and published an interesting memoir of the geological condition of the Simplon, with special reference to the temperature of the proposed tunnel. The temperature of a tunnel depends chiefly on its length, character of the strata through which it runs and the thickness of the superincumbent mass. In the St. Gotthard Tunnel the temperature often rises to nearly 90° F. In the proposed Mont Blanc Tunnel it will probably be about 120° F., and in the Simplon Tunnel, if the trace projected in the year 1877, which passes through Mont Leone, were adopted, might be about 118 F. It is now proposed, however, to adopt another line of operation, which, though it would be a curve and would make the tunnel considerably longer than was contemplated, offers several important advantages as compared with a straight line. It is estimated that the normal temperature of the tunnel on this line would not exceed 95 F., and as the nature of the ground would admit of the sinking of two shafts the temperature might be considerably reduced.

#### A Chemical Photometer.

Mr. Antony Guyard, of Paris, has recently proposed a photometer which is based on a well-known chemical operation, and is decidedly interesting. When iodide of nitrogen is placed in water it decomposes under the influence of light. In aqueous ammonia the decomposition is effected more regularly, and iodide and iodate of ammonia are formed, the rapidity of decomposition being proportional to the intensity of the light. The volume of nitrogen evolved in a given time is therefore a measure of the radiation. Mr. Guyard's apparatus consists of a test tube having its neck hermetically closed by a cork divided into centimeters and tenths. A lateral tube communicates with it, like the burette of Gay-Lussac. Into this test tube the inventor places about 1/4 grams of the iodide, then adding ammonia at 22° until it is filled. The tube is then tightly closed, excluding air bubbles, and is exposed to the light. The liberated nitrogen accumulates in the neck of the tube, and to take a reading the lateral tube is emptied until the level in both tubes is the same. The quantity of iodide—1/4 grams—liberates about 33 1/2 cubic centimeters of nitrogen. Mr. Guyard prepares nitrogen and iodate of ammonia in this way by allowing the light of an electric arc lamp to fall on the mixture of ammonia and iodide of nitrogen in the dark.

#### Condition of the Air in Theaters.

Some interesting experiments have recently been made in Germany relative to the temperature and condition of the air in theaters when lighted by electricity and gas respectively. The investigations at the Residenz Theater, at Munich, showed that the increase of temperature was 10 times as great in the upper gallery when gas was used than when illuminated by electricity. In the former case the temperature rose about 16 1/2° F. and in the latter only 1.6°. In the lower portion of the house there was naturally a less marked difference. With a full house the temperatures with gas and electricity were 84° and 73° respectively. The temperature was not as high in the third balcony with the electric light as in the first with the gas lights. The amount of carbonic acid was also determined, and it appears that with an empty house, where all the carbonic acid came from the lamps, there was the same difference as in temperature. At the beginning there were about 4 parts in 10,000 in the auditorium. With gas lights this increased to 5 parts in the pit in about half an hour, to 11 parts in the first balcony and 20 in the third. With electricity it was 4 parts at the beginning, and in half an hour 5 in the pit, 5 in the first balcony and 6 in the third balcony. With 500 or 600 people in the house the maximum amount of carbonic acid was 23 parts in 10

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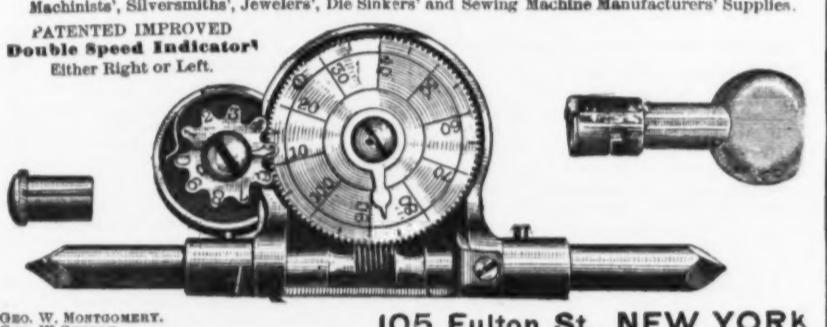
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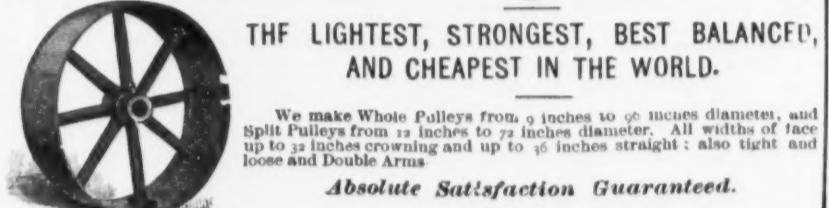
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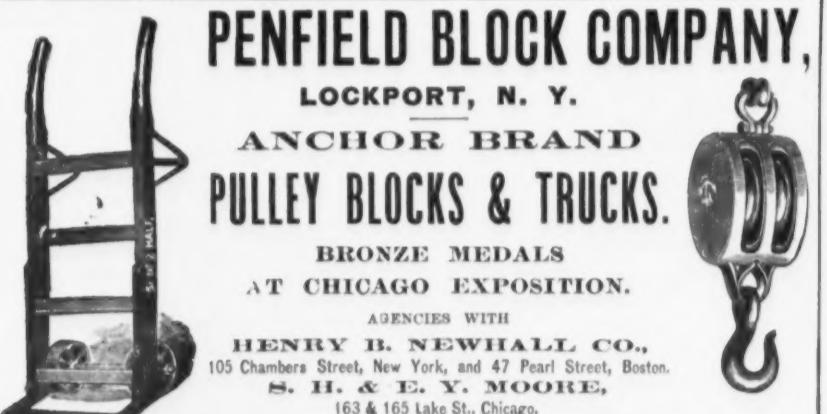
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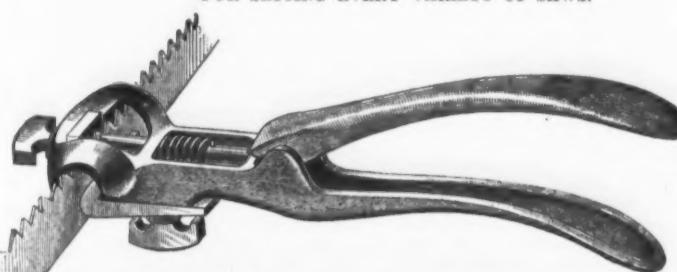
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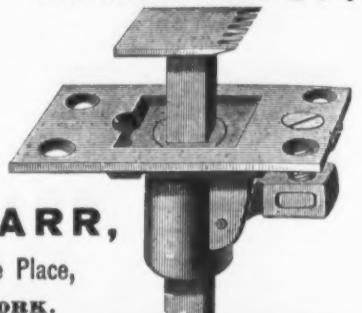
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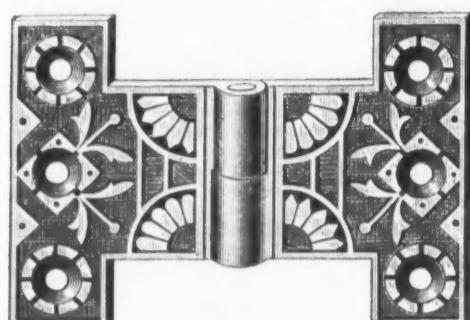
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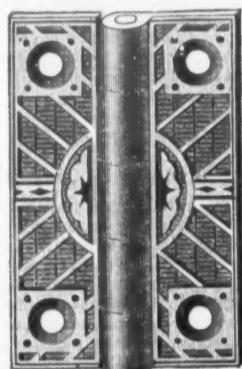
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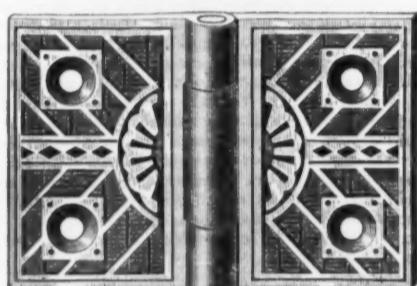
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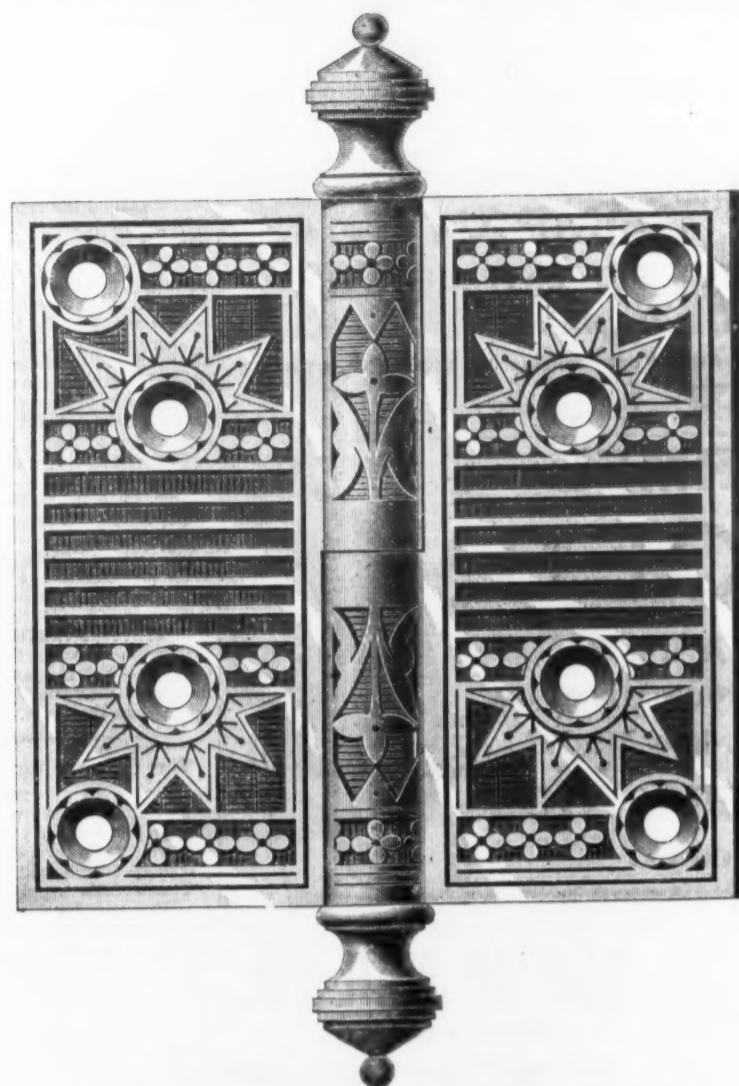
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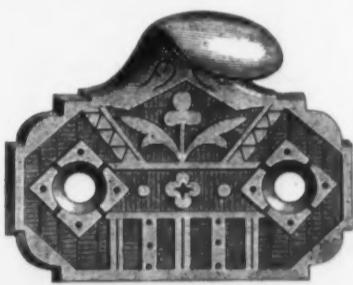
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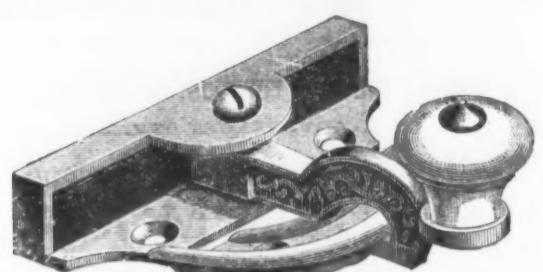
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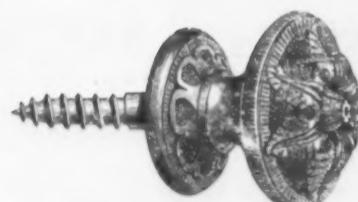
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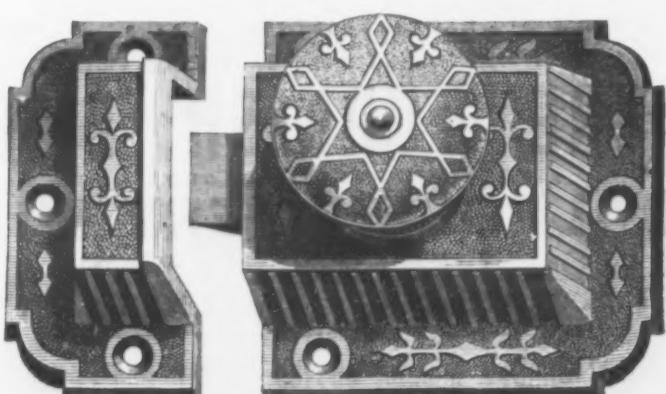
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## The Railroads of Venezuela.

Consul H. N. Beach, writing from Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, under date of Feb. 8, remarks that the first railroad built and operated in Venezuela began at Puerto Cabello and led to the westward, along the strip of land between the Bay of Trieste (the bay is an extension of the Caribbean Sea) and one of the Andean ranges, which varies from one mile to two miles in width. This strip of land is a joint formation produced by a wash-down from the mountains and a wash-up from the sea, and is nearly dead level. When the road was projected it was with the intention and expectation that it would be extended for a distance of about 70 miles, and in its course to reach one or two interior cities. From the levelness of the route and the sandy character of the soil the work of grading was neither difficult nor expensive. About 10 miles of the road were put into operation and kept in operation for a few months. Financial embarrassment followed, the cars stopped running, the rails were taken up and shipped away, and now nothing visible remains of the enterprise but an outline view of the nearly jungle-overgrown road-bed.

Tucacas is about 30 miles to the westward of Puerto Cabello. From Tucacas to the mines of Aroa, where copper mining is prosecuted, the course is southwesterly, and distance  $55\frac{1}{2}$  miles. Between these places an English company, about the year 1870, built a 2-foot gauge railroad, mainly for use in connection with mining. The topography of the country permitted the road to be built in almost an air line, it having but few slight divergencies. The obstacles met with in its construction were many, and some very formidable. For a large portion of the way there were trees of great size, and a dense jungle from 20 to 30 feet in height. From the nature of the obstacles it became necessary that the building and surveying of the road should be conducted in conjunction, and the line of the road was sometimes determined by the compass following those who cleared a place for the track. A great deal of maria abounded; poisonous reptiles were frequently met with, and tigers and other wild animals were quite numerous. The fertile soil was full of roots, rendering the grading of the road very difficult. A few small streams were crossed, the largest requiring a bridge of 90-foot span. The bridges are iron structures, the railroad ties are of iron, and even the telegraph poles along the line are of the same material.

The road appears to be substantially constructed, and the cars run very smoothly. For 23 miles from Tucacas the grade of the road has made an ascent of 150 feet. Near the western terminus of the road the mountain is approached, and at the distance of 50 miles from Tucacas the elevation is 700 feet. The road for its last five miles has an upward grade of 600 feet, requiring especially-constructed engines for the movement of trains. There are nine stations on the road—all mere stations, except Tucacas, the starting point, with a population of 1200, and La Luz, the practical terminus for general business,  $50\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Tucacas, a village having a population of about 3000. The freight cars carry from five to six tons and the passenger cars about 30 passengers. Of late years the road has, in addition to the copper ore, freighted considerable coffee and other general merchandise of the country, coming mainly from Barquisimeto, a city of 25,000 population, 60 miles beyond La Luz, with which it is connected by a coach and cart road. The passenger business of the road is very light.

A railroad from La Guira to Caracas has been in process of construction for several years. The distance by a foot-path over the intervening mountain is eight miles, but by the necessarily circuitous route of the railroad line it is 22 miles. Caracas is 2600 feet above the sea at La Guira; but in passing over the lowest point of the intermediate mountain an altitude of 3000 feet is attained, from which there is a descent both ways. The track of the road is  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -foot gauge. The grade over the mountain is uniform  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The road is built on a series of reverse curves, having a radius of 140 feet. Caracas is directly south of La Guira. In starting from La Guira the course of the road is westward, but it circles around to the southward in ascending the mountain, and the whole forms a large semi-circle as it reaches its southern terminus. In building the road work was begun at La Guira, and has been progressed from that point. The northern end of the road has been completed for over a year, and is utilized for the transportation of material used in its construction. In recently riding over the coach road between the cities named, which for much of the way is near the railroad line, Consul Beach was enabled to observe the work as fully completed and as incomplete.

Great scientific skill has been displayed in the engineering. The work is well executed, and, judging from the large force of men employed, the road will doubtless be in running order its entire length by the 1st of July next, the time of opening fixed by its managers, and which is the time set for opening the International Exhibition at Caracas—both openings to be celebrated in conjunction. For a considerable part of the way the road passes along the precipitous sides of the mountain, having a surface of sand and shale rock which is liable to be carried in large quantities on to the track by heavy rain showers, and which will be the greatest obstacle to the operating of the road will have to contend against.

Surveys have been made for other railroad lines, and a small amount of grading has been done on a proposed road between Puerto Cabello and Valencia, a distance of about 40 miles, with intermediate mountain elevation of 1500 feet.

One of the greatest drawbacks to the extension of the coal trade in Russia is said to be the high charge for railway transportation and the want of proper roads to serve as feeders to the different lines. Inquiries instituted many years ago as to the working of Russian railways showed that for analogous national traffic the rates in Russia were double the current rates in France, Belgium, Germany and Great Britain. Inland water transportation naturally suggests itself as the cheapest method for conveying coal from

one part of the country to the other. Unfortunately, however, the Government has neglected the waterways, thus preventing the inhabitants from availing themselves of the natural advantages which Russia possesses in so large a degree.

## Double-Crank Power Presses.

Presses which are designed for cutting or forming the large sheet-metal blanks used in the manufacture of the largest pieced tinware, tea-trays, coal-hods, &c., necessarily occupy more floor space and require more special features in their construction than the presses which are limited to work of small diameter. In single-crank presses the point where the pressure is applied usually lies in the center of the surface bounded by the cutting or forming edges of the dies, the slide-bar being guided by slide bearings. On the length of these slides, as well as the manner in which they are fitted together, depend the accuracy of the descending stroke. It is evident that in single-crank presses the length of the slides should be in proportion to the diameter of the work, but as a very large diameter would necessitate a correspondingly high press, it soon becomes necessary for the sake of economy to change the construction of the machine, which is usually done by caus-

boards, stove-pipe elbows, sections of buckets and tanks, tin signs, &c., and also for forming and corrugating any large sheet-metal work.

## The Iron and Coal Trades of Scotland.

In a recent issue of our British contemporary, the *Colliery Guardian*, we find an interesting review of the iron and coal trades of Scotland, from which it appears that the Scotch pig-iron trade is just now passing through a peculiar phase of its history. "At no time," says our contemporary, "has there been a more extensive legitimate business done. The output is very large—more so, indeed, than even the number of furnaces in operation would seem to indicate, for within the past few years a large proportion of them have been remodeled and improved in such a way as to greatly increase their capacity. Both at home and abroad the consumption of Scotch pigs has been considerably above the average. Still, the prices rule very low, and particularly in the case of the warrant market a feeling of great depression prevails. During the greater part of the past month warrants have fluctuated only a few pence per ton, and there has been positively no inducement to turn over the iron from one set of hands to another. At the beginning of the month

weeks ago the latter seemed to be shrinking, but they have since been exceptionally good, showing a considerable increase. At the same time, not a few merchants and makers are apprehensive as to the future. The fact is that it is not easy always to go on shipping larger quantities than at any former time, and they know that in the event of a comparative decrease occurring it is almost certain to exercise an adverse influence on the market.

"The trade with the United States is particularly a source of uneasiness. Merchants do not put any faith in it. This is unfortunate, seeing that, next to the quantity of pig iron used at home, comes that dispatched to the States. The shipments thither during August have been about 11,000 tons; but, judging from the orders placed for future delivery, the quantity to be sent in September will not be so large. Of course, the iron-masters may have private orders of which they say nothing, but this is regarded as highly improbable. In the course of the month Canada has taken upward of 7000 tons of Scotch pigs, Germany nearly 9000, Italy 4000, Russia 3800, Holland 2500, and France 2000 tons. Our ironmakers are again using rather less Cleveland pig iron, but the demand for it still continues above the average, and the arrivals to date show a comparative increase of 24,000 tons. A large quantity of hematite is being consumed, and

for better wages is therefore carried on with much caution, and only participated in by a section of the miners."

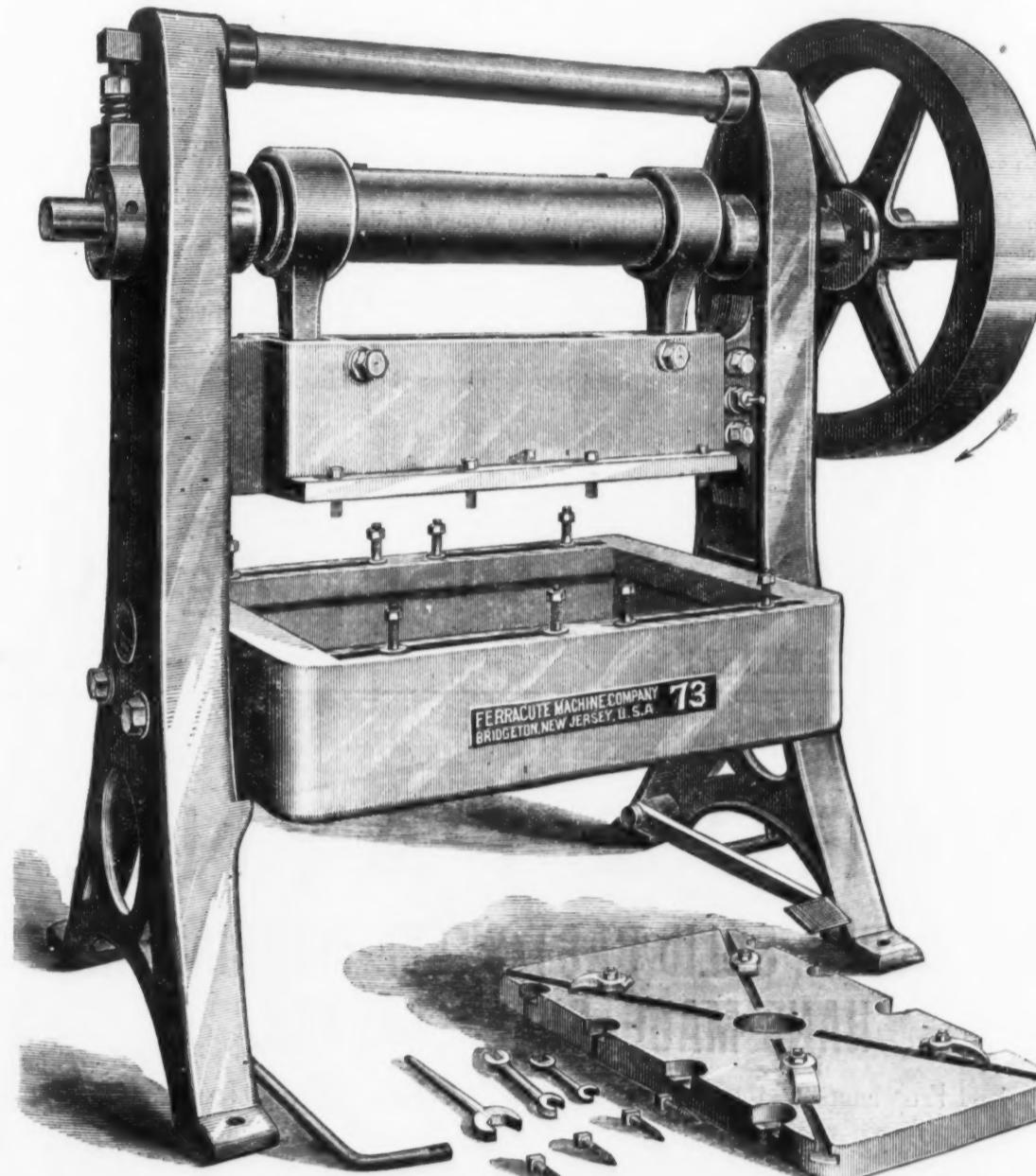
## The Corn Crop.

It is now generally believed that the first reports concerning the effect of the late frosts upon the corn crop were exaggerated. An average corn crop is worth about \$500,000,000. If it were possible for a frost to destroy the crop entirely in five States, the loss would be about \$80,000,000 bushels, or half the whole crop. But these States, reaching from the Ohio line to the western border of Kansas, from the Arkansas line northward to Minnesota, cover so vast a territory that injury from such a cause can hardly reach one-half of the corn there produced. Indiana produced 107,500,000 bushels last year, and Illinois 182,300,000, and a large part of the corn produced by each is in the southern portion, below the point which recent frosts are said to have reached. Missouri, yielding last year 170,000,000 bushels, is also almost wholly below the line said to have been reached, as is Kansas, which produced 144,500,000 bushels. In fact, of the five great corn-growing States, Iowa is the only one which lies mainly north of that line, and its yield, 175,500,000 bushels last year, is reported to be injured only in some localities. Assuming that the northern half of Indiana and Illinois, with less than 140,000,000 bushels, and the whole of Iowa, may have been to some extent affected, the injury may cover some part of 315,000,000 bushels, out of nearly 800,000,000 bushels grown in the five great States.

North of these are States which produce in all only one-tenth of the entire corn crop. These are Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Nebraska, which produced last year 164,300,000 bushels. Adding the 4,900,000 bushels grown in Dakota, Oregon and the intermediate Northern Territories, with Iowa and the northern part of Indiana and Illinois, we have in all 485,000,000 bushels grown in the regions which may have been affected by the recent frosts, and it is not supposed that even within that region more than a fraction of the crop has been harmed. The alarm which some speculators raised at Chicago, therefore, does not seem to have had much foundation. Even if 200,000,000 bushels should prove to be lost by reason of the frost in the whole of this northern belt, it would not be a very serious matter, in view of the fact that the entire crop of this year was expected to exceed that of 1882 by about 400,000,000 bushels. There would still remain more corn than the country has ever yet found use for in any year. Hence, although the statements as to damage are conflicting, at the worst the injury yet done can hardly leave the country with a crop as small as the largest ever grown before, if the estimates generally received prior to the cold snap were not far from the truth.

Below the line indicated, in Missouri, Kansas and the southern half of Illinois and Indiana, corn was well out of danger before the frost occurred. In a few scattered localities where it was necessary to plant a second time, growing corn in low ground may have been injured, but this cannot amount to much in comparison with the entire crop. In all the Southern States and Territories, also, the crop was out of harm's way. The Southern States produced 480,600,000 bushels last year, and California, Colorado and the Southern Territories 4,500,000 bushels. The increase in yield at the South is said by the Bureau reports to be very large. Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and the New England States produced last year 174,300,000 bushels, of which 93,300,000 were from Ohio alone, and it is not reported that the injury in these States has been of importance. In short, the question is as to the region in which about 500,000,000 bushels were raised last year, out of 1,617,000,000 bushels in all. It does not yet seem probable that the injury in that region will equal the reported increase elsewhere. In examining the possible consequences of a great cold wave, one is struck with the comparative security which the vast territory of this country gives against disasters to agriculture. The causes that bring about misfortune in Minnesota and Wisconsin can hardly affect the central belt, in which crops mature some weeks earlier, and still less can they affect the sunny South. Nor can it often happen that any destructive change of temperature can sweep over the 1500 miles between Western Kansas and the Atlantic Coast without losing much of its force. Even the terrible drought of 1881, which prevailed for months over a wonderful expanse of country, only reduced the yield of corn to 1,200,000,000 bushels, and this was more than had ever been raised in any year prior to 1875. In any single locality the farmers are exposed to losses, but the nation has a security against great calamity in the vast extent of its cultivated territory and the wide variations of climate under which cultivation is prosecuted.

**Reaper Companies at War.**—A dispatch from Milwaukee, under date of the 13th, says: The answer in the case of D. M. Osborne & Co., of Auburn, N. Y., against George and G. W. Esterly, father and son, doing business under the firm name of Geo. Esterly & Son, at Whitewater, Wis., manufacturers of the Esterly reaper and mower, was filed in the United States Court to day. It will be remembered that the Osbornes lately sued the Esterlys for libel, claiming damages in the sum of \$150,000, and alleging that they had issued circulars and made statements concerning the Osborne machines that were malicious and false, damaging their business to the amount stated. The answer is very long, covering many pages of closely printed legal case. All of the allegations in the complaint are emphatically denied, and counter charges are made against the plaintiffs. Stripped of its legal verbiage, the answer claims that the Esterly binder is the original invention, embodying all the devices in dispute; that D. M. Osborne & Co., seeing that their machines were becoming unsaleable on account of the superiority of the Esterly machines, applied the principle identically to their own harvesters, to that great disadvantage of the defendants; that after applying the principle they first sold the machine under the name of the



Double-Crank Power Press.—By the Ferracute Machine Company.

ing the pressure to be transferred from crank-shaft to slide-bar at two or more points instead of one. These points should be as near the slide bearings as possible, and the adjustment of the bar should be of such a character as to affect the several pitmans simultaneously.

The double-crank press illustrated is of recent design, and contains the principal modern improvements in this line. The engraving represents one of a series of six sizes (numbered from 71 to 76), built by the Ferracute Machine Company, of Bridgeport, N. J., and is an exact representation—being engraved from a photograph—of press 73.

These presses are built with heavy solid columns and bed, and the two eccentrics are made in one casting, forming a truss which prevents the shaft from springing. The adjustment of the slide-bars is regulated by means of an eccentric sleeve working in both pitmans, thus insuring an accuracy that cannot be obtained where they are adjusted separately. Special bolster plates, provided with die clamps (shown in the cut), are made to order to suit small dies. These presses have the automatic clutch, spring brake, clamped gibs, safety pins, and most of the improvements peculiar to the other presses manufactured by this company.

The weight of press 73, without bolster plate, is about 4400 pounds; width between columns, clear, 44 inches; height to slide-bar, when up, 9 inches; stroke of slide-bar,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches; adjustment of slide-bar, 1 inch; diameter of fly-wheel, 39 inches; width of fly-wheel, 6 inches; weight of fly-wheel, about 750 pounds; extreme height of press, from floor to highest part, 6 feet 3 inches; extreme depth, front to back, 3 feet 3 inches; extreme width, right to left, 5 feet 8 inches. The hole through the bed is of rectangular shape, and measures 24 x 36 inches, the size of the hole in press 71, the smallest of the series, being 16 x 24 inches, and that in press 76, the largest, 36 x 34 inches. This press is especially adapted for cutting out large articles in tin, brass, copper, sheet iron, &c., such as boiler covers and bottoms, stove

considerable purchases were made by merchants who were apprehensive that they might be called upon to make deliveries at a time when rates would be higher. But it was presently seen that the movement among the miners, which was looked upon as the lever by which prices were to be raised, was likely, for some time at least, to prove a failure. Over all the mining districts, with the exception of Fife and Clackmannan, the miners are completely disorganized, and the meetings that were held early in the month of August to agitate for an increase of wages were very poorly attended. It was apparent that the men were destitute of competent leaders, that they were indisposed to combine or adopt any course that might end in a strike; and this being evident, the warrant market sunk into a state of complete lethargy, and prices went back to a lower figure than they had been at for weeks.

The month opened with 115 furnaces in operation, one was afterward put out and two subsequently lighted, so that there are now 116 blowing, producing an average of 200 tons of pig iron each per week. At the same date last year the production was about 1200 tons a week less.

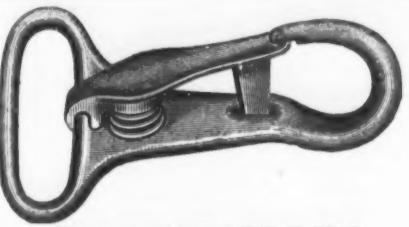
In the warrant stores, the stocks exhibit a slight increase since we last wrote on the subject, but they are 45,000 tons below the figures at the end of August, 1882. The general impression among those best informed, however, is that the quantity of pig iron held by makers in their own yards has of late been augmented. The fact is that, although the miners have not as yet obtained a general advance of pay, following upon the recent increase in the price of coal, their wages have been gradually creeping up from natural causes all through the season, and as they may probably become higher still, it is to the advantage of the ironmaster that he should produce as much iron as he can at present. With a augmented cost of labor and dearer fuel, the expense of making pig iron is now about 2 per ton more than at this time last year. We have already remarked that home consumption and exports are both extensive. Several

as it is very moderate in price, the cost of steel goods is thereby cheapened and the demand for them extended. The manufactured iron and steel trades are quite as busy as at any previous time this year, and it is satisfactory to observe that their prospects appear to be improving rather than otherwise. Ship-builders have booked many good contracts that will serve to extend the period of activity and give additional work in the foundries and malleable and engineering establishments. Business in the manufacturing departments is, on the whole, in a favorable condition.

"It will be inferred from what has been said above that the coal trade has been expected to yield considerable stimulus to the iron market. Although it has not hitherto done so, it would be a mistake to conclude that the coal trade itself has not improved materially in the period under review. All parties, sellers and consumers alike, admit that for shipping and manufacturing purposes an advance of 6d. to 8d. per ton has been made perfectly good, and that it is paid in most quarters with scarcely a grumble. The current demand for coals of nearly all qualities is brisk. The shipments of the month from the various Scotch ports give a total of about 315,000 tons, being 55,000 tons more than in April, 1882, and the quantity used at home has of late been greatly on the increase. Whether the prices will rise higher presently depends upon the pressure for supplies toward the end of autumn. The miners are apathetic, chiefly because they are, comparatively speaking, in a prosperous position. There has been a scarcity of men for both coal and ironstone mining, the consequence being that masters have for months past been competing for their services by offering them a few pence additional wages per day. By this means the men's remuneration has been gradually improving, and with steady employment, they find themselves in tolerably easy circumstances. Past experiences, of a bitter kind, make them exceedingly shy of adopting an attitude of hostility to their employers, and the agitation



THE ATTENTION OF THE TRADE IS INVITED TO THE SUPERIOR



PATENT IMPROVED GERMAN SNAP.

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MANUFACTURED BY

THE UNION HARDWARE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

WEST TROY, N. Y.

These goods embrace a complete line of Halters and Ties, both in Hemp and Jute, made up with entirely new and original patented fixtures, and presenting such marked advantages over all other goods in the market intended for like use as to command immediate and general appreciation. These advantages are (see cut):

*First.*—The Crop Bolt Snap is the only Spiral-Spring Snap in the market that is impervious to water and dirt.

*Second.*—The Corrugated Split Clamp attached to the snap affords a perfectly safe connection with the rope that will not chafe through by use, and which obviates the necessity of the clumsy double-thick splice heretofore employed.

*Third.*—The Adjustable Buckle into which the snap engages, and through the openings in which the lead of the rope is passed, affords a more convenient and secure adjustment of the loop than any similar device in use.

THE UNION HARDWARE MFG. CO. also manufacture a complete line of Cross Bolt Harness Snaps, Double Snaps for Chain Connections, Harness Chain Goods, Hitching Chains, Patent Improved German Snaps, &c.

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Corey's Patent Equalizing Spring.

The best idea ever invented for giving ease to the shearer, regulating the pressure from 4½ to 10 pounds at will. Can be attached to all shears.

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MANUFACTURERS OF  
EDGE TOOLS, SOLID CAST-STEEL MACHINE AND  
HAND-MADE SHEEP SHEARS.

Proprietors of the Celebrated Brand <sup>S. J. ADDIS</sup>, Carving Tools.

Being by far the largest producers in the world of the above goods, Ward & Payne are enabled to quote prices which distance competition.

Orders booked from 1st of July for delivery as required.

The reputation Ward & Payne have long enjoyed for their Sheep Shears and other goods in Australia, the Continent of Europe, California, &c., is a guarantee of the excellence of their manufacture.

Two to Three Dollars per dozen difference in favor of purchaser of their justly approved Sheep Shears over all other brands.

One Trial Convulses and secures the account.

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Ward's Double Bow Shears

Provided with Straps  
assisted by the shearer  
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ACME ICE CREEPER.  
Patent Allowed.  
SIMPLE, DURABLE,  
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SELF-FASTENING BY STEPPING  
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L. A. SAYRE, Newark, N. J.  
SHIELDS & BROWN,  
FOR BOILERS AND STEAM PIPES.  
Prevents Radiation of Heat.  
Bradley's  
INSULATED AIR COVERINGS  
Awarded first and only Prize, Silver Medal, at the late National Railway Exposition.  
Send for Illustrated Pamphlet, and mention The Iron Age.  
80 Lake St., - CHICAGO.

MANUFACTURERS AND SOLE PROPRIETORS OF  
FOR GAS AND WATER PIPES.  
Also Condensation of STEAM.

"AUSTRIA" CLUB SKATE.  
Brief mention is made of the following points in favor of the "Austria," which tend to make it the best Club Skate in the market. It is made *simply* there being but one screw in the skate, a welded, hardened runner, solid steel clamp, etc. Can be adjusted more securely and quickly than any other brand, and far superior to any other pattern for safety, and to the extreme opposite. Send for sample and price to W. H. CORNWALL, 18 Warren St., New York. Carry in stock a complete set of these, and you will not be disappointed. Wood Top Skates, etc., for repairs, &c. Orders executed at manufacturers' prices. Send for Trade Price List.

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GENUINE CONCORD AXLES  
Manufactured only by CONCORD AXLE CO.,  
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THE Eberhard Mfg. Co.,  
CLEVELAND, OHIO,  
MALLEABLE IRON  
Carriage, Wagon and Saddlery  
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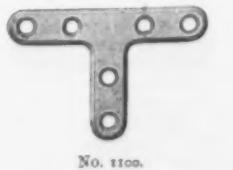
Malleable Iron Castings also made to order from Special Patterns.



Large variety in each line. New patterns, producing original designs, and goods better adapted to practical use than ever offered to and through the hardware trade. Large stocks; prompt delivery.  
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No. 893.



No. 1100.

Esterly, and then changed it to the Osborne. It is alleged that the Osborne people circulated reports that they had foreclosed and obtained possession of the property of the Esterly, which statement was malicious and false, and did great injury to the defendants. The answer closes by demanding the dismissal of the plaintiff's action and judgment against the defendants for damages in the sum of \$500,000, besides all costs of the action. J. H. Page and W. F. Violas appear as the defendants' lawyers. The suit is one of the most important ever recorded in the local courts, and the outcome will be eagerly watched.

#### Iron and Steel Shipbuilding on the Delaware.

According to the *Philadelphia Press*, the iron and steel shipbuilding industry of the Delaware River has had a wonderful development since the opening of the present year. The expansion of the trade has been without precedent. In this respect the Delaware River bears the same relation to the other shipbuilding centers as the jug to the handle. The proportionate amount of business done elsewhere in this country is insignificant. The business done during the first six months of 1883 is greater than the entire bulk of the transactions for 1882. The river is, indeed, the Clyde of America. The following table will show the tonnage of the iron and steel ships built in this country from 1868 to 1883:

Years.	No.	Tonnage.	Years.	No.	Tonnage.
1868	.....	2,831	1875	25	21,346
1870	.....	4,584	1877	7	5,026
1870	.....	8,281	1878	12	26,960
1871	.....	15,790	1879	24	22,081
1872	.....	20	1880	31	25,383
1873	.....	26	1881	42	26,156
1874	.....	23	1882	43	40,097
1875	.....	21,632			

During the last six months of 1882 there were built at New York, Philadelphia and Wilmington 14 vessels, having a displacement of 13,792.48 tons, and an approximate weight of iron in hulls of 10,000 tons. These figures were compiled by Assistant Register of the United States Treasury, Hon. W. P. Titcomb. So far this year there have been built at the various yards on the Delaware River 51 iron vessels, 5 of steel and 36 of wood. The total tonnage of the iron and steel vessels was 55,079 tons, or 110,158,000 pounds. The total weight of the iron and steel used in the construction of these vessels was 31,810 tons, or 63,620,689 pounds. The 36 wooden vessels built had an aggregate tonnage of 20,426 tons.

If the production during the remainder of the year keeps pace with these figures the total tonnage, estimating partly from present contracts, which are large and numerous, will not fall below 150,000 tons, with an actual weight, represented by steel and iron used in construction, of 180,000,000 pounds, or 90,000 tons. The operations have been conducted at six principal yards—those of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company and the Pusey & Jones Company, at Wilmington; of John Roach, at Chester; of the American Shipbuilding Company and William Cramp's Sons, at Philadelphia, and of John H. Dialogue, at Kaighn's Point, Camden. The steel and iron monitor *Amphitrite* is included in the estimate of the operations of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company. There were built in that yard one steam transportation boat, two steamships, two steamboats, one ferryboat, one coal collier and one steam yacht. The steam yacht and one of the steamboats were of steel. Their aggregate tonnage was 2704 tons. The total tonnage of the nine vessels was 12,883 tons, or 25,766,000 pounds, reckoning 2000 pounds to the ton. The production at the yard of the Pusey & Jones Company during the same period aggregated 1700 tons. The total weight of the iron used in construction was 2,200,000 pounds, or 1100 tons. Among the items of construction was a steam yacht, 36 feet long, upon which was used 15,000 pounds of steel. Six of the vessels were twin screw steamers. The officers of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company decline to furnish the amount of steel and iron used in building, but upon the average presented in the figures of the Pusey & Jones Company it would appear to approximate 8500 tons.

The largest amount of business was that transacted by John Roach, at Chester. During the six months in question there were built 12 vessels, with a total tonnage of 23,309 tons. The total weight of the hulls of these vessels was 21,914,689 pounds, or 10,957 tons, at 2000 tons to the ton. Three of the boats were of identical dimensions and general pattern, and were built for the Brazil trade. One, the *Cienfuegos*, goes to the south side of Cuba, and another will engage in general coasting. The *Utopiana* and *Viking* were pleasure yachts, and two, the *Lampasas* and *Alamo*, are destined for Texas. The *Alaskan*, a side-wheel steamer, leaves in a few days for the Pacific coast. One of the boats, a steamer intended for the Florida coast trade, is steel-plate. She is not yet named. The largest of these vessels, the *Lampasas*, is 329 $\frac{1}{4}$  feet long, 40 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, with a depth of hold of 23 $\frac{3}{4}$  feet. All of the vessels but one are provided with compound engines.

The operations at the yard of John H. Dialogue, of Kaighn's Point, Camden, were confined mainly to the building of iron tugboats. He constructed one iron vessel, four iron tugboats and one steel and one wooden tugboat. In the former there were used 63 tons of steel. The total amount of iron used in construction was 523 tons. The estimated average value of the tugs was \$25,000. Dialogue has also been making, on an average, two tons of anchors per week, which would aggregate, since January 1, something like 70 tons.

There have been seven launches of iron vessels at the yard of the Cramps, at Port Richmond. One of these was the *Tacoma*, in whose construction there were used 4,200,000 pounds of iron, or 2100 tons. There were built two steamers, which consumed 3650 tons of iron, and a steamer requiring 750 tons of like material. In the building of Jay Gould's steam yacht *Atala* there were used 600 tons of iron. Small vessels and miscellaneous items brought the total of the iron used in construction up to 14,600,000 pounds, or 7300 tons. The average consumption heretofore

at this yard has been about 10,000 tons. This year it promises to exceed that figure.

The data regarding the yard of the American Shipbuilding Company, at Port Richmond, of which Lieut. H. H. Gorringe is president, relates only to such vessels as are now well under way on the stocks, owing to the recent establishment of operations. There are nine large ships being constructed, and the total quantity of iron called for aggregates 2940 tons. Two of the vessels are of 2000 and 2200 tons tonnage respectively, and four are three-masted schooners. One is a steam collier, registering 900 tons; the rest tugboats of from 40 to 75 tons.

"Is it not true," was asked of one of the largest iron and steel shipbuilders, "that the development of the iron shipping interests is rather in the direction of foreign countries?"

"Yes. The South American nations, in particular, are coming to the Delaware to buy and build their vessels. The Pusey & Jones Company, of Wilmington, are almost exclusively in the building of boats for Brazil, United States of Colombia and other South American countries. Even our wooden ships are going to Mexico, Cuba and the West Indies. The Delaware River presents unrivaled advantages for shipbuilding, and year by year, from this time forth, they will be eagerly seized upon and developed."

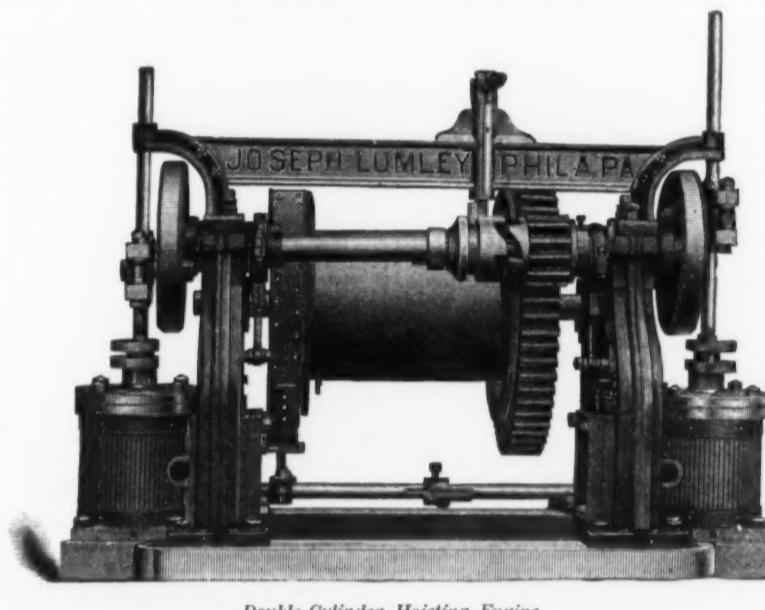
#### Double-Cylinder Hoisting Engine.

We present herewith an illustration of a new and improved double-cylinder hoisting engine, made by Mr. Joseph Lumley, of 144 North Third street, Philadelphia, Pa. It is specially adapted for discharging vessels, hoisting materials in warehouses, coal yards,

with extended wings, bristling plumage and outstretched claws, upon a rock. Each single feather is wrought, and the whole is so true to nature that it deserves the appellation of unique. Proceeding to two other branches of metal working, enameling and *cloisonné*, the author said that it had not been proved when the art of enameling was first introduced. It is affirmed with certainty that it has been known for centuries. In enameling copper the enamel is applied to the object, the form of the flower or arabesque, being completed. The Japanese are such experts that they finish with one color everything that has to be done in that color; they then follow on with the other colors, until the whole work is finished.

In working *cloisonné* the process is more complicated. The gold wire employed is rubbed with the juice of a kind of onion. That juice is so sticky that it fixes the wire on the surfaces, and the figures made are then filled in with enamel. In both processes the object is placed in an oven, which is heated until the enamel begins to shine. As soon as the luster appears, this is a sign that it has been melted. The process requires the greatest care; for, should the oven be overheated, the enamel is burned and drops off. It also happens that the enamel is too thin in some places, when it gets burned before the other parts are finished. When the object enameled has become cool, the inequalities are rubbed with a fine sandstone by hand, and the enamel is finally polished.

Another method of enameling is to cut out the figures in metal. The deepened portions are then filled in with enamel, and the whole is treated in the same manner as in the other process. Metal plates with raised and smooth enamel are used as inlays for drawers



Double-Cylinder Hoisting Engine.

and will also be found serviceable on mine and ore banks. The engine can be bolted to the deck of a steam barge, and, with a cylinder of 6 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, it will occupy a floor space of only 4 square feet. Simple inspection will show that the apparatus is strongly built and well adapted to its work. The cog and pinion are made of the best cast steel, thus insuring durability. Every engine is tested before leaving the establishment, and, if desirable, can be delivered in a portable form.

#### Japanese Metal Work.

In a lecture recently delivered at Stuttgart, Germany, Mr. G. Richter gave some attention to the skill exercised by the Japanese in working metals, and among other things stated that the name *karakana* for metal points to the conclusion that the manufacture of bronze was introduced from China. It must, however, have been known in Japan for a long time, since the first Europeans who visited the country found bronze guns and small arms. Japanese bronzes contain principally copper and tin, with a small addition of lead or zinc. In the second half of the fifteenth century, a certain Yudo exerted a great influence upon the development of the manufacture of bronze. He was the founder of ornamental art, and celebrated for his great skill in preparing models. The principal products of the Japanese bronze industry are figures, vases with flowers or birds, decorations, or both combined, as well as fishes, dragons, censers, &c. The execution of the bronzes points to great care being employed, and the casting of large dragons and other objects in one piece has hitherto not been accomplished by any other nation. The best bronzes are made for the temples. A vase and a candlestick are placed one on each side of the god, in the center a censer, and below two lanterns. The old vases and candlesticks were formerly not made in pairs—each formed a separate work of art. The manufacture in pairs was only encouraged later, by the export trade which set in.

Great care was also formerly exercised upon the ornamentation of swords. The guards and handles of daggers and knives were adorned by the most beautiful bronzes. The sword guards and the dagger handles are made of chased iron inlaid with bronze. No less artistic are the *netzkys* or the *kanemons*, which are buttons serving the same purpose as the former, but are also used as sword suspenders. They are decorated with colored bronzes, each being a perfect work of art. The alloy of bronzes of blue-black color principally employed, and called *shakudo*, consists of copper, with 3 per cent. of gold. An alloy consisting of three parts silver and one part copper gives a silver-gray color, called *shibu-ichi*. The art of working iron has been brought to a perfection in Japan, the author said, which justly deserves the admiration it has called forth. Witnesses of this excellence are the old sword blades, which are richly ornamented. A master in the art was Miyochin-Menehara, who lived in the sixteenth century. One of his works, unique of its kind, is in the British Museum. It represents a sea eagle, standing

and other articles of wood. Both kinds of enamel, especially those of many colors, are also produced on porcelain. A lacquer-like enamel, like *cloisonné* work, is used for wood. This is an invention of more recent times. Chinese *cloisonné* long enjoyed the name of being the best. But the Japanese have eclipsed it in the purity and beauty of color and the art of decoration.

#### Report of Commissioner of Patents.

The Commissioner of Patents has submitted to the Acting Secretary of the Interior his report of the business of the Patent Office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883. The report shows that:

The number of applications for patents received was.....	32,845
Number of applications for design patents received.....	1,019
Number of applications for reissue patents received.....	247
Number of applications for registration of trade marks.....	854
Number of applications for registration of labels.....	749
Total.....	34,714
Against, in 1882.....	32,662
Number of caveats filed.....	2,658
Number of patents granted, including re-issues and designs.....	21,125
Number of trade marks registered.....	616
Number of labels registered.....	618
Total.....	22,696
Number of patents withheld for non-payment of final fees.....	2,056
Number of patents expired.....	7,471
Receipts from all sources.....	\$1,05,854
Expenditures (not including printing).....	67,628
Surplus.....	\$38,225

The increase in receipts over 1881 was \$305,989, and over 1882, \$105,020. The number of applications awaiting action on the part of the office on July 1, 1883, was 4,699, an increase of 39 per cent, over 1882.

The *Railway World* publishes the following table showing how many American car-wheels were exported during the last four fiscal years, and to what countries they were sent:

	1879	1880	1881	1882
Argentine Republic.....	244	204	95	182
Belgium.....	450	390	201	328
Brazil.....	632	1,362	1,348	2,048
British America.....	4	6	10	2
France.....	210	208	136	137
Germany.....	30	248	206	192
Great Britain.....	1,073	3,045	2,005	1,580
Scotland.....	104	720	429	280
Gibraltar.....	40	—	—	—
British North America.....	943	1,120	434	370
West Indies.....	40	—	—	24
Guiana.....	—	—	—	24
Australia.....	94	136	44	310
Fiji Islands.....	69	350	103	103
Hawaii.....	—	405	—	404
Dutch West Indies.....	—	8	16	12
Mexico.....	30	30	2,550	2,204
Netherlands.....	24	—	—	—
Peru.....	130	—	440	—
San Domingo.....	42	9	148	16
Spain.....	—	100	—	404
U. S. A. (Tubs)	2,926	3,106	2,422	1,754
Porto Rico.....	—	28	72	12
United States of Colombia.....	350	554	270	439
Uruguay.....	420	84	654	200
Venezuela.....	4	24	74	16
Total.....	8,370	10,864	11,697	12,319

#### Tile Making in Holland.

The tiles manufactured in Holland, as described in the *Glassware Reporter*, are flat, hollow, S-shaped, or with a square opening in the middle to let in a pane of glass, being much used for lighting lofts and garrets all over the low countries. They are either red, gray or blue, or glazed on one side only. The flat paving tiles are about 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches square by 1 inch thick; they are used principally for cisterns and for bakers' ovens. The clay for tiles, it is to be noted, is in all cases more carefully prepared than that for bricks, being ground up wet in a pugmill or tub, with a shaft carrying half a dozen blades. By this means, roots, grass, &c., are got rid of. The clay comes out of the pugmill in the consistency of potter's clay, and is kept under a shed, where it is kneaded by women with their hands, to the rough form of a tile, on a table dusted with sand. These pieces are carried off to the molders, who are two in number, a rough molder and a finisher. The tiles are then dried under sheds, and afterward in the sun. With regard to the flat paving tiles, they are at first rough-molded about 1 inch larger than the subsequent size and a little thicker, and then laid out to dry under a shed, until such time as the thumb can hardly make an impression on them. They are then taken to a finishing molder, who, on a table quite level and slightly dusted with sand, lays one of the tiles, and strikes it twice or thrice with a hammer of wood larger than the tile, so as to compress it



**Special Notices.****To Brass Foundries.****To Brass Manufacturers.**

Our new foot press, for cutting off GATES from brass castings by FOOT power, is now ready. Weight, 250 lbs. Price complete, \$50, net. A boy can operate it easily. We warrant them to give the most perfect satisfaction. PEERLESS FOUNDRY AND SHARER CO., 39 W. Dey Street, New York.

**For Sale or Lease.****A Large Two-Story Brick Factory,**

formerly Macine Works, at Pearl River, N. Y., on railroad depot, 25 miles from New York City. Railroad facilities unexceptionable, on the line of the New Jersey and New York Railroad. The property contains 40,000 square feet floor space, with one 80 H. P. Engine and Boiler, 700 ft. 2-inch line shafting and pulleys; main belts, steam heating and water pipes throughout the building. A splendid foundry, 70 ft. x 90 ft., with one iron smelting furnace, 10 ft. high. Macine, blower, blast furnace, core oven, blacksmith shop, pattern vaults, annealing oven, etc. The property can be bought or leased on liberal terms. For further particulars, price, terms, etc., address J. E. B. & Co., 111 Liberty St., New York, or Pearl River, Rockland Co., N. Y.

**For Sale.**

The largest stock of New and Second hand Engines, Boilers, and general Machinery in the West. Send for Catalogue. Hoisting Outfits for Coal Mining and other purposes.

WARREN SPRINGER,  
195 to 219 South Canal St., Chicago.

**For Sale.****Second-hand DROPS and LIFTERS.**

BEECHER & PECK,  
Lock Box 122, New Haven, Conn.

**STEAM PUMPS****For Sale.**

A large number of Steam Pumps of all makes, and ranging in size from small tank or boiler feeds up to very heavy service machines.

While the stock lasts good bargains are open for Wines, Water Works, Rolling Mills, Furnaces, or any one needful to move fluids by steam.

Call upon or address J. NO. A. HINCKLEY,

Purchasing Agent of the United Pipe Lines,  
Oil City, Pa.

**For Sale.****MACHINES FOR MAKING PICKS, MATTOCKS AND AXES.**

With Solid Punched or Adze Eyes.  
T. & CO., Box 25,

Office of The Iron Age, 83 Reade St., New York.

**For Sale.****TREBLE AND DOUBLE-GEARED 25-INCH ENGINE LATHES,**

from new patterns.

**For Sale.****GEORGE A. OHL & CO.,**

East Newark, N. J.

**FOR SALE.**

The extensive Foundry and Machine Shops formerly owned by Clute Bros., adjoining the Erie Canal, and at the junction of the several railroads centering there, are offered for sale on reasonable terms. On the premises are Engine, Boiler, Cylinders, Line Shafting, Steam Heating Pipes, Cranes, Dismantle Scales, &c. For further information, address, H. S. EDWARDS,

For Mohawk National Bank,

SCHENECTADY, July 24, 1883.

**For Sale.****The half interest in a Wholesale and Retail Hardware business in the City of Jacksonville, Florida.**

Sales last year, \$25,000. Inquire of Holbrook Bros., 87 Beckman St., New York City; Perry & Co., Albany, N. Y.; McConnell & Co., Hornellsville, N. Y.; and of the proprietors, BENEDICT & MC CONNIE, Jacksonville, Florida.

**VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE.**

The Hardware Works, Tenth and Spruce Streets, Reading, Pa., consisting of Foundry, Machine Shops, Warehouse, and other buildings, machinery, etc., all in first class running order. One entire block of ground. Ample room for extension. Will be sold on easy terms. Apply to F. C. SMINK,

Reading, Pa.

**Valuable Property for Sale.**

Machine Shop, Foundry, Blacksmith Shop, with Forge, Hammer, Saw Mill, Paint Shop, Two Dry-ware houses, with Cellars, out-buildings, including 45 acres of land and water right. Situated on Antietam Creek, a never-failing water-power, three miles south of Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa. Will be sold on easy terms.

Apply to GARVER, FOLTZ & CO., Hagerstown, Md.

**To Lease.**

From May 1, 1884, for a term of years, at a low rental to satisfactory parties the manufactory property at New London, Conn., lately occupied by the Brown Cotton Gin Company. The ground comprises over 80,000 square feet. The buildings and sheds under roof measure over 25,000 square feet, of which about 20,000 are metal roofs. An Engine, Boiler, shafting, &c., &c., are on the premises. The property is very conveniently located for manufacturing purposes. Its entire eastern line is bounded by the land of the Shore Line Division of the N. Y. N. H. and Hartford R. R. Co.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. J. C. LEARNED & SON, New London, or to B. HAXTUN, 172 Centre St., New York.

**Wanted.**

A Partner with \$500 to \$10,000 in a Foundry and Machine Business, established in 1884. For particulars, inquire of

L. H. COLLIER,  
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

A PRACTICAL Roller of 12 years' experience is open for engagement. Either Bar or Guide Mills. Strictly temperate habits, and can produce first-class references.

Address "ROLLER, 42,"

Office of The Iron Age, 83 Reade St., New York.

**Special Notices.****NEW AND SECOND-HAND MACHINERY.**

One Iron Planer, 16 ft. x 60 in.  
One Iron Planer, 7 ft. x 33 in.  
One Screw-cutting Lathe, 11 ft., 18 in. swing.  
One Screw-cutting Lathe, 16 ft., 24 in. swing.  
Two Lincoln Milling Machines.  
One Smith & Garvin Machine.  
One 3-Spindle Upright Drill.  
One 25-in. Back Geared Drill.  
Three Edging Machines.  
One 12 x 42 in. Corliss Engine.  
One 50 H. P. Return Tubular Boiler.  
One 60 H. P. Locomotive Boiler.  
One 8 H. P. Hoisting Engine and Boiler.  
One 26-in. Endless Bed Planer.  
One 24-in. Gray & Woods Planer, with Feed Rolls.

**HENRY I. SNELL,**  
135 N. 3d Street, PHILADELPHIA.

**For Sale.****Bolt and Nut Machinery.**

9 Bolt Cutters, National, capacity up to 1 in.  
10 Bolt Cutters, National, capacity up to 1 1/2 in.  
3 Bolt Cutters, National, capacity up to 1 1/2 in.  
3 Bolt Cutters, National, capacity up to 2 1/2 in.  
2 each, 3 in. and 4 in.

2 National Bolt Headers, capacity up to 1 in.  
1 National Bolt Header, 1 1/2 in.

1 Improved Lewis Bolt Header, capacity up to 1 1/2 in.

Several Chapin Headers, light and heavy; Nut

Tappirs, a complete assortment; Cold Headers

for Rivets, Store Bolts, &c.; Hot-pressed Nut

Mach., Washers, Washed Machinery, and every

variety of tool used in Dots and Nut Shops.

The only specialists in line in the United States:

1/2 in. &c.

THE NATIONAL MACHINERY CO.,

Catalogues sent free to any address.

**CORRESPONDENCE IS SOLICITED**

with parties having

**MACHINERY TO BUILD,**

Heavy work preferred.

Address THE HARTFORD ENGINEERING CO.,

Hartford, Conn.

**Wanted.**

Cotton Bale Hoop Cuttings, Oily Wrought Iron Trimmings, Cast Iron Boring, No. 1 Wrought Scrap Iron. Address (naming price and point of delivery).

JOS. J. LIPPINCOTT & CO.,

131 So. Fourth St., Philadelphia, Pa.

**Southern Mineral Lands.**

Rock City Real Estate Association is a chartered company composed of men of wealth and character in Tennessee. J. M. Hamilton, President; Ira P. Jones, Secretary and Treasurer; Henry E. Colton, late Geologist and Inspector of Mines for the Geological Survey of the Geo. W. G. Hay now for sale lands in Tennessee containing red fossil and brown hematite iron ore; coking and domestic coal in Tennessee and Alabama; gold, silver, copper and magnetic iron ore in North Carolina; manganese and zinc ore in Arkansas. Also timber and tan-bark lands.

Careful examinations and reports made of lands in any of the Southern States. Examination of titles made and abstracts furnished.

Address HENRY E. COLTON, Gen'l Mngr., Nashville, Tenn.

**For Sale.**

Having decided to enter largely into the manufacture of the Allen Hay Tedder, recently patented by myself, I will sell out my prosperous and successful

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT, HARDWARE, STOVE AND TIN BUSINESS.

ESTABLISHED HERE IN 1863.—Stock good, clean and new. Also three-story Brick Building, Warehouse and Sheds; or will rent buildings at reasonable figures. For full particulars, parties meaning business please call on or address

P. A. SPICER,

117 State Street, Marshall, Mich.

**TO ENGLISH AND CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS.**

Wanted.—To arrange with some party to manufacture on royalty, or to buy outright, English Patent, No. 4929, for Friction Clutch; also Canadian Patent, No. 16,656.

These patents have been thoroughly proved in America, and are recognized as the standard. We are now doing a profitable business of \$10,000 per annum. Address D. FRISBIE & CO.,

481 N. 5th St., Phila., Pa.

**To My Patrons.**

I herewith take pleasure in announcing to the Hardware Trade that I am re-established and prepared, with superior facilities, to execute first-class Engravings on Wood at reasonable charges.

O. W. MADDAUS,

Park Row, Room 41, New York.

**ROLL TURNER WANTED**

For a Steel Bar and Plate Mill. Must be a thoroughly competent man.

State experience and wages expected.

Address "STEEL,"

New Glasgow, N. S.

**Hardware.**

An excellent opportunity to engage in the wholesale trade for one who can command \$15,000, or would like to join hands with a good live concern in the South or Northwest, and put in as capital the stock, which is in excellent condition and well assorted.

Address "C. W. C."

Office of The Iron Age, 36 & 38 Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

**For Immediate Delivery.**

600 TONS BLACK SHEET IRON,

Assorted Gauges.

2000 TONS ASSORTED BARS, BANDS & HOOPS.

Write for particulars.

PACKARD, SMITH & CO.,

Warren, Ohio.

**Trade Report.****BRITISH IRON AND METAL MARKETS.**

[Special Cable Dispatch to The Iron Age.]

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, Sept. 19, 1883.

**Scotch Pig.**—The market continues weak, and prices have declined. We quote makers' brands as follows:

Coltness, alongside, Glasgow	57/6
Langloan, "	58/6
Gartsherrie, "	55/6
Summerlee, "	50/6
Carnbroe, "	54/6
Glengarnock, " Ardrossan	54/6
Eglinton, "	49/6
Dalmellington, "	48/6
Shotts, " at Leith	58/6

Lighterage from Ardrossan to Glasgow is 1/2 ton.

**Cleveland Pig.**—The market is a little firmer. Prices are unchanged. We quote as follows, f.o.b. shipping ports:

Middlebury No. 1 Foundry	43/6
No. 2	41/6
No. 3	39/6 @ 39/6
No. 4 Forge	38/6

**Bessemer Pig.**—Continues dull and weak. W. C. Hematites are quoted 49/ @ 50/ for mixed lots, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, equal portions, f.o.b. shipping ports.

**Blooms.**—But little business doing.

**Manufactured Iron.**—There is a better feeling in the market and prices are a little firmer. We quote as follows:

Staff. Ord. Marked Bars	£ s. d.	£ s. d.

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the 12th inst. at the Astor House, and advanced the factory price of first quality Files and Rasps to discount 40 per cent. instead of discount 45 per cent. We learn that the meeting was a full one, and that the best and most harmonious feeling prevailed.

Russell Jennings, of Deep River, Conn., has issued a circular, in which he says: "We wish to express our sincere thanks for the patience manifested during the time that we were unable to fill orders promptly, and we take pleasure in informing you that our facilities have been so increased that we are now able, and expect to be in the future, to fill orders without delay for all sizes of Auger Bits, from 4-16 to 16-16; and within a short time we shall be prepared to say the same with regard to large Bits, Car Bits, Dowel Bits, Machine Bits and every style of Augers and Auger Bits made by us."

We invite attention to the advertisement in another column of the Scott Manufacturing Company, of Baltimore, relative to "Ice Creepers," of which they manufacture two patterns—the "Safety" and the "Arctic."

The peculiar feature of the "Safety" Creeper is that it can be worn the entire winter on the boot or shoe without once removing it, as it is simply reversed, or turned under the foot, on entering the house, thereby doing away with any possible injury to a carpet or to a polished floor. The "Arctic" Creeper is made of solid cast steel, with steel pins, and, on account of its durability, is largely used. Both of these Creepers are efficient for the purpose intended, and have been proved in use to be eminently practical. The motto of the manufacturers is "Semper Idem," which they intend shall symbolize the excellence as well as the uniformity of their goods. The following are the prices, which are net for quantities less than a gross; lots of a gross or more, discount 10 per cent.:

"Safety" Ice Creepers..... \$25.00  
Arctic..... 30.00

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#### IRON.

**American Pig.**—Sales in this market during the past week, so far as reported, do not aggregate half as much Iron as was sold here during the preceding week, and that was considered a period of remarkable dullness. There is no doubt that the present demand for Iron is very weak, but there are conflicting opinions in regard to the near future, which appears either cerulean or slightly roseate, according to the experience or temperament of the individual. It is asserted as ground for hopefulness that last September was a very similar month to the one which is now drawing toward its close, and that trade appeared unsatisfactory in volume and ominous in character until after the setting in of October, when there was a revival in the demand which continued far into the winter. On the other hand, it is argued that disturbing elements have appeared in trade which did not exist a year ago, that the decreased consumption of Iron will prevent any elasticity in surrounding conditions, and that demand and prices must continue to drop until time enables the country to recover its lost vigor. The situation is certainly one of great perplexity, and nobody anticipates any change in it until some time in October, when large buyers usually lay in Iron before the close of navigation. Prices will then depend upon the effect which the large stock of No. 2 Foundry and Gray Forge Irons will have upon the market. No. 1 Foundry is not held in excessive supply, but there is an abundance of the other grades. At present there is no indication of weakness in prices, which are held at about the same figures as before quoted, say, No. 1 Foundry, \$22 @ \$22.50 for Lehigh and North River Irons, with sales of special brands at \$23; No. 2 Foundry, \$19 @ \$20.50; Gray Forge, \$18.30 @ \$19; White and Mottled, \$17. Sales on the Metal Exchange during the past week footed up 1300 tons. The secretary of the Exchange now has reports from 108 furnaces, and states that their stock of Pig Iron on September 1 was 105,563 tons, against 113,134 tons on August 1; their production in August was 47,571 tons, against 46,157 tons in July. The following prices for 100-ton lots of Pig Iron, immediate delivery, for cash, are quoted us by furnace sales agents, lighterage in New York harbor being 60¢ per ton, which should be added to Hoboken or other tidewater prices:

#### NO. 1 FOUNDRY.

Hudson (free of lighterage at New York)..... \$22.75  
Carbon (Hoboken delivery)..... 22.50  
Thomas (Hoboken delivery)..... 22.00  
Manhattan (tidewater)..... 21.00  
Bushong (tidewater)..... 21.00  
Olcott (at furnace, Albany)..... 22.00

#### GRAY FORGE.

Durham (tidewater)..... \$18.75  
Pequest (tidewater)..... 18.75  
Sterling (tidewater)..... 18.10  
Musconetcong (tidewater)..... 19.00

**Scotch Pig.**—Recent importations have been very moderate, and were absorbed upon arrival at current rates. There is more inquiry, and sales are reported of a consider-

able quantity of Glengarnock to arrive. The demand is generally very light, however, and there is no inclination to import in anticipation of business. Prices are so little above cost that 1/ for freight more or less effects a serious difference in profits to the importer, and freight rates evince a tendency to advance rather than to recede, which makes this branch of the Iron trade extra hazardous. We revise quotations as follows: Coltness, \$23.25 from ship; Summerlee, \$22.50 to arrive, and \$23 from ship; Shotts, \$23 @ \$23.25 from ship; Langloan, \$23.25 from ship; Gartsherrie, \$23 @ \$23.50 from yard; Glengarnock, \$22.50 to arrive; Carnbroe, \$22.50 to arrive, and \$23 from yard; Eglinton, \$21 from yard; Dalmellington, \$20.75 to arrive, and \$21 from ship.

**English Pig.**—There have been no recent transactions in Bessemer Pig in this market. Sellers quote \$21 @ \$21.50. The only sale of Middlesbrough Pig that has come to our notice is one of 500 tons Redcar, at private terms, to arrive.

**Bare Iron.**—The demand continues fair. Although no large transactions are reported, the supply of small orders is continuous. A good feature of trade is the ease with which collections are made, many buyers voluntarily paying cash. If present conditions were to continue for any length of time they would be regarded as healthy and satisfactory, if not as remunerative as might be desired, but there is unmistakable anxiety for the future, with so much unemployed capacity for production in the country. Prices are unchanged. Common Iron being especially stiff: Refined, \$2.30 @ \$2.40 from store, and \$2 @ \$2.20 from mill; Common, \$2.10 @ \$2.20 from store, and \$1.75 @ \$1.80 from mill.

**Structural Iron.**—No abatement is to be noted in the demand, which is very satisfactory. Prices are as follows: 3.5¢ for Bars in round lots, on wharf, and 2.6¢ @ 2.8¢ for Angles, and 3.25¢ for Tees, out of store.

**Plate Iron.**—There is a fair trade. The demand is constant, and sales aggregate a satisfactory quantity. Consumers complain of a falling off of orders, however, and hesitate to pay top prices. Prices are therefore weaker, although nominally unchanged, as follows: Common, 2.6¢ @ 2.75¢; Refined, 2.75¢; Shell, 3.4¢ @ 3.4¢; Flange, 4.4¢ @ 4.4¢; Extra Flange, 5¢ @ 5¢.

**Sheet Iron.**—The demand is very good for all sizes, including Galvanized, and the prospects are favorable for a continuation of the present condition of the market. Prices range from 3.1¢ to 3.3¢ for Nos. 10 to 16, Black Sheets, according to quality and size of order. For prices of Galvanized and Light Sheets, see our New York Wholesale Price List.

**Steel.**—We have to report an improving trade. More purchasers are in the market, and regular customers are buying in larger quantities. Some establishments have booked more orders in the past week than in any similar period for a long time. We quote American Tool Steel, 11¢; Crucible Machinery, 6.4¢ @ 7¢; Bessemer and Open-Hearth Machinery, 4¢ @ 5¢; Homogeneous Steel Plates, 5.4¢ @ 6¢; English Tool Steel, 15.5¢.

**Steel Wire Rods.**—Some small sales have been made, but large buyers are not yet in the market. Quotations are nominally \$50, duty paid. There is some inquiry for Siemens-Martin Steel Rods, which will perhaps lead to business. According to recent reports from Germany, the feeling among Rod makers there is improving, and prices are a little stiffer. As the demand for Rods has been very limited for some time, many German mills have turned their attention to the manufacture of Bar, Hoop and Band Iron, in which there is a good trade, and they are therefore not anxious to do much in Rods at the current low prices.

**Steel Rails.**—There is still a great deal of inquiry for next year's delivery, and we are reported a sale of 25,000 tons by an Eastern mill at current rates for delivery in 1884. Prices for winter and spring delivery are quoted as heretofore, namely, \$37.50 @ \$38 at Eastern mill, and small lots have been taken on these terms.

**Old Material.**—The movement continues very light. The supply of No. 1 Wrought, though limited, is evidently sufficient to cover the existing reasonable requirements. We hear of a sale of 200 tons Selected from yard at \$24.50, but choice lots are held at \$25, and are not pressed for sale at that. A lot of 300 tons was offered from ship at \$22.75 with no takers, and was put into store. Quotations range from \$24.25 to \$25 for No. 1 from yard and \$23.75 for shipment. A sale of 100 tons of extra good Car-wheels was made at a price equivalent to \$19 at tidewater, but \$19.50 is now asked for an additional lot. Old Rails are very difficult to quote, in the absence of open transactions, but they range from \$21 to \$23.50 at this point, with quantities held firmly at \$24. Several hundred tons have changed hands in the past week on private terms. The following miscellaneous sales are reported: 100 tons Old Railway Leaf Spring Steel, \$26.75; 100 tons Light Wrought Iron Scrap, \$16.75; 100 tons Cast Iron Barrings, \$9.75. Crop and Bloom Ends are held at \$23.50 from yard. Old Bessemer Steel Rails are offered for shipment at \$25.50; Double Head Iron Rails at \$25.50; Iron Bridge Rails at \$24.50; Iron Fish Plates at

FREE-BURNING STEAM COALS, F.O.B. Lump, Broken, Chestnut, Pea, \$3.90 @ 3.95 \$3.90 @ 4.00 \$4.50 @ 4.80 \$2.85 @ 3.15

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#### TRANSACTIONS ON THE METAL EXCHANGE.

THURSDAY, September 13.

100 tons American Pig, No. 1, Feb..... \$21.87 1/2  
100 " " Straits Tin, Oct..... 21  
25 " " Nov..... 20 5/4  
15 " " Aug.-Sept. ship..... 20 5/4  
15 " " Sept. ship..... 20 8/5  
10 " " Nov..... 21

FRIDAY, September 14.

100 tons American Pig, No. 1, Feb..... \$21.87 1/2  
100 " " " " Nov..... 21 8/7 1/2  
100 " " Straits Tin, Sept.-Oct. ship..... 20 5/4  
25 " " Lake Copper, Sept..... 21 8/7 1/2  
250,000 lbs. Lake Copper, Sept..... 21 8/7 1/2

SATURDAY, September 15.

100 tons Straits Tin, Sept.-Oct. ship..... 21 8/7 1/2  
25 " " " " Sept.-Oct. ship..... 20 8/5

MONDAY, September 17.

100 tons American Pig, No. 1, Oct..... \$21.62 1/2  
100 " " " " Nov..... 21 8/7 1/2

TUESDAY, September 18.

100 tons American Pig, No. 1, Jan..... \$21.50  
100 " " " " Feb..... 21  
100 " " " " Mar..... 21 8/7 1/2  
100 " " " " Dec..... 21 8/7 1/2  
100 " " " " Feb..... 21 8/7 1/2  
25 " " Straits Tin, Sept.-Oct. ship..... 20 8/5

WEDNESDAY, September 19.

100 tons American Pig, No. 1, Feb..... \$21.61 1/2  
100 " " Straits Tin, June-July ship..... 20 9/5  
10 " " " " spot..... 21  
25 " " Sept.-Oct. ship..... 20 8/5

#### METALS.

**Copper.**—The upward movement in Copper in this market, foreseen by all close observers, has at length been started without an effort, assisted in some measure by the generally better feeling in business circles, a feeling which, though manifesting itself later than some had hoped, seems to be all the sounder for it. These improved views as to business can hardly fail to exercise a powerful, stimulating influence on the metal trade, and Copper being the metal most favorably situated of all, feels, of course, the first effect of it. Lake Superior has improved to 15 1/4¢, cash, firm, after sales of some 200,000 lb. at 15 1/4¢, and other brands are worth 14 1/4¢ @ 14 1/4¢. London cabled Best Selected £60 yesterday, and Chili Bars £63. 10/4, while to day we receive the ensuing message: "Market a little weaker and quotations lower. Best Selected, £68 @ £69, and Chili Bars, £63. 5/4 @ £63. 10/4." Manufacturers may be quoted as under: Bottoms, 24¢; Braziers, 24¢; Sheathing, 22¢; and Bolt Copper, 24¢. Messrs. James Lewis & Son, Liverpool, September 1, state: "The arrivals here from the United States during the past month amount to 1300 tons, Fine, of which 1182 are in Argentiferous Ore and Matte."

**Tin.**—The market was slightly set in motion again by a London quotation yesterday, of £4.20, Straits, but there is a lack of spirit, and we cannot quote Straits, spot, large lines, any better than 21¢. We are called to-day from London to the following effect: "Tin is firmer. Straits Ingots, spot, quoted £4.20 @ £4.05, and futures, £4.40 @ £4.60." L. and F. may be quoted 22¢, nominally. **Tin Plates.**—A good jobbing demand has prevailed, especially for Roofing Plates. We quote at the close, large lots, ordinary brands, 2¢ box: "Cobalt Bright, 55 1/2¢ @ 5¢; do; Terne, 55 1/2¢ @ 55 1/2¢; Zinc Tin, 55 1/2¢ @ 55 1/2¢, and do. Terne, 54 1/2¢." Liverpool is about steady, at 15 1/2¢/Coke and Charcoal, 18 1/2¢ @ 20¢. From London we are told per cable to-day that the market remains unchanged.

**Lead.**—Quite a large business has been transacted during the week under review, resulting in sales aggregating 12,000 tons Common and Refined, part on dock, at various prices—\$4.35, \$4.32 1/2 and \$4.30, the market closing quite firm at \$4.32 1/2 for both Hard and Soft, while St. Louis ranges for both between \$4 and \$4.10. From London we learn to-day that the market remains unchanged. Manufacturers are quoted as follows: Lead Pipe, 6 1/4¢; Sheet Lead, 7 1/4¢; Tin-lined Lead Pipe, 15¢ P. lb, and Block-Tin Pipe, 45¢, less the usual discount to dealers.

**Spelter and Zinc.**—Although not yet apparent through larger dealings, the improved opinion as to the immediate future of this metal has, if anything, been gaining ground during the week, and Common Domestic is now quite firm at 4 1/2¢, with moderate sales therat, while Silesian remains nominally 5 1/2¢. Sheet Zinc is worth 6¢ @ 6 1/2¢. Bertha Relined Spelter, 7 3/4¢ @ 8¢; and Bergentor, 9 1/2¢. We receive from London the ensuing cablegram: "Market weaker. Prices have fallen off a little. Ordinary at shipping ports, £14. 7/6 @ £15. 2/6." **Antimony.**—Has been inquired for to a moderate extent only at 9 1/2¢ Hallett, and 10 1/2¢ Cookson. Last London mail quotation, £38 @ £40 for French Star Regulus.

**Steel.**—The market was slightly set in motion again by a London quotation yesterday, of £4.20, Straits, but there is a lack of spirit, and we cannot quote Straits, spot, large lines, any better than 21¢. We are called to-day from London to the following effect: "Tin is firmer. Straits Ingots, spot, quoted £4.20 @ £4.05, and futures, £4.40 @ £4.60." L. and F. may be quoted 22¢, nominally. **Tin Plates.**—A good jobbing demand has prevailed, especially for Roofing Plates. We quote at the close, large lots, ordinary brands, 2¢ box: "Cobalt Bright, 55 1/2¢ @ 5¢; do; Terne, 55 1/2¢ @ 55 1/2¢; Zinc Tin, 55 1/2¢ @ 55 1/2¢, and do. Terne, 54 1/2¢." Liverpool is about steady, at 15 1/2¢/Coke and Charcoal, 18 1/2¢ @ 20¢. From London we are told per cable to-day that the market remains unchanged.

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## OLD METALS, PAPER STOCK, &amp;c.

The purchasing prices offered by dealers are as follows:

Copper, heavy	per lb.	\$0.12	per lb.
Copper Bottoms	"	.10 1/2	"
Yellow Metal	"	.07 1/2	"
Brass, heavy	"	.09	"
" light	"	.07	"
Composition, heavy	"	.11	per lb.
Lead, heavy	"	.04	"
Tea Lead	"	.03 1/2	"
Zinc	"	.03	"
Pewter, No. 1	"	.14	"
" No. 2	"	.06	"
Wrought Iron	per ton	.22.50	"
Light	"	12.00	per lb.
Stove Plate	"	11.50	per lb.
Machinery	"	14.50	per lb.
Grate Bars	"	4.50	"
Stereotype Plates	per lb.	.04 1/2	per lb.
Electrotype	"	.04 1/2	per lb.
Small Type	"	.05	per lb.

The prices current (prices paid by local dealers) for Rags, &c., are as follows:

Canvass, Linen	per lb.	.34 1/2	per lb.
White Cotton, New	"	.35 1/2	"
" No. 2	"	.35 1/2	"
White, No. 1	"	.35 1/2	"
" No. 2	"	.35 1/2	"
Seconds	"	.35 1/2	"
Soft Woollens	"	.35 1/2	"
Mixed Rags	"	.35 1/2	"
Gunny Bagging	"	.35 1/2	"
Jute Butts	"	.35 1/2	"
Kentucky Bagging	"	.35 1/2	"
Boot Stock	"	.35 1/2	"
Newspapers	"	.35 1/2	"
Waste Paper and Scraps	"	.35 1/2	"
Kentucky Bale Rope	"	.35 1/2	per lb.

## PHILADELPHIA.

Office of *The Iron Age*, 220 South Fourth St., PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18, 1883.

**Pig Iron.**—The market has been very quiet during the week, and prices are again a shade easier. Special efforts are being made to force sales, but offers at 25¢ @ 50¢ per ton below recent figures are not likely to be refused when made by good buyers. The supply of Iron is not excessive, but the fact that prices are weakening shows, nevertheless, that the supply is in excess of the demand. Consumers are buying so carefully, however, and are carrying so little stock, that the position may possibly be better than appearances would indicate. In fact, it is generally believed that, outside of what is being carried by the furnaces, there has seldom been a time when so little stock was in second hands as to-day. This is about all that can be said in favor of the market, the demand being dull and dragging, and entirely devoid of that feeling of confidence which is characteristic of a healthy trade. It is difficult to see how prices can go any lower, but, in spite of theories to the contrary, the tendency is steadily in that direction. All descriptions are weak, but prices of No. 1 Foundry have been shaded more than any other grade. Nominally there is not much change in quotations, but brands which were held firm some time ago at \$23 @ \$23.25, are now easily available at \$22.50. Mill Irons are easier to buy, but, as a rule, are not quoted much below the figures given eight or ten weeks ago, but buyers of large lots can, in many cases, do better by half a dollar per ton than during July and the early part of August. There is very little disposition to bid for large lots, however, and while it seems impossible for any material break in prices to occur, buyers are just as cautious as though Iron was several dollars per ton higher than it is. The extreme range of prices is about as follows: No. 1 Foundry, \$22 @ \$23; No. 2 Foundry, \$19.50 @ \$20.50, delivered, Philadelphia; Gray Forge, \$17.50 @ \$19, f.o.b. cars at furnace. Sales, as already mentioned, have been confined to small lots prompt delivery; buyers of large lots forward delivery would, in the majority of cases, be able to shade the above prices according to circumstances.

**Foreign Iron.**—There is very little demand for Bessemer, and only small lots have been sold from \$21 to \$21.50, according to quantity, shipment, &c. Buyers of 5000-ton lots and upward appear to have entirely withdrawn from the market, although \$21 could doubtless be shaded on firm offers. Spiegeleisen is weak and lower, with sales of 1000 tons 20% @ \$30.12 1/2 for shipment to Baltimore, now held at \$31 in consequence of higher freights.

**Blooms.**—Market a trifle steadier, and while sales have been made at less money, sellers of good brands are realizing about the following rates: Charcoal Blooms, \$57 @ \$58; Run-out Anthracite, \$47.50 @ \$49; Scrap Blooms, \$42 @ \$44; Northern Ore Blooms, \$39.50 @ \$41.50.

**Muck Bars.**—Market rather quiet, but for good qualities prices are steady. Sales have been made chiefly at \$34 at mill, although in some cases we hear of slightly lower figures.

**Bar Iron.**—The market remains very much in the same condition as reported for several weeks past. There is a good deal of business doing in a small way, and many of the mills have all the work they can handle at about 2.2¢ for Best Refined Iron. At the same time, there are many complaints of irregularity in prices and the extremely small orders which are given from time to time. Buyers seem determined to trade from hand to mouth, however, and, unless to cover actual requirements, it is impossible to secure orders of any importance, and in such cases very low prices are expected. It is difficult to quote prices with any definiteness, as much depends on quantity and quality required and specification of sizes. Outside the city 2.1¢ at mill is said to be a bottom quotation for first-class Iron, but orders can be placed at a good deal less when stipulations as to quality are not very strict. On the whole, it may be said that the market has held its own during the week, and prices are steady as above quoted.

**Plate and Tank Iron.**—The firmness and scarcity noted in recent reports is steadily maintained, and prices are very firm as last quoted. There is not a great deal of business around, but there is rather more than can be taken for early delivery, quite a number of small orders being held in advance until they can be placed without advancing prices. In the meantime quotations are firm as follows: Tank Iron, 2.5¢; Boat Plate, 2.35¢ @ 2.4¢; Shell, 3¢ @ 3.25¢; Flange, 4¢ @ 4.25¢, and Fire-Box, 5¢ @ 5.5¢.

**Structural Iron.**—There has been less inquiry this week, and, with the exception of one order for about 600 tons bridge work,

there has been very little new business given out. Manufacturers are very much pushed to make deliveries as rapidly as required, however, and there is plenty of work to occupy them for some time to come. Prices are steady as last quoted, viz.: Double-Refined Bars, 2.5¢; Bridge Plates, 2.5¢; Angles, 2.3¢ @ 2.4¢; Tees, 2.8¢ @ 3¢; Beams and Channels, 3¢.

**Sheet Iron.**—The demand for Thin Sheets has been well maintained, although the low numbers are rather quiet. Something more than an average business has been done to date, however, and prospects indicate that the entire product of the mills will be required before the close of the year, particularly Thin Sheets. Prices are steady and for small lots about as follows:

Common Sheets, No. 28	per lb.	.45¢
Common Sheets, Nos. 26 and 27	"	.45¢
Common Sheets, Nos. 21 to 25	"	.45¢
Common Sheets, Nos. 18 to 20	"	.45¢
Best Refined, 1/2¢ advance on the above	"	.45¢
Best Bloom Sheets, Nos. 26 to 28	"	.65¢
Best Bloom Sheets, Nos. 16 to 21	"	.65¢
Common Red Plates, 3-16 to 16	"	.75¢
Best Bloom, Galvanized, discount	"	.75¢
Second quality, discount	"	.50¢

**Wrought Iron Pipe.**—There has been a fair demand for small lots, but business in a large way is limited. The general tone of the market is decidedly weak and irregular. The following prices may be given as representing the retail market, say 60¢ off list price on Boiler Tubes and 75¢ off on Gas and Steam Pipe, 70 and 10 @ 75¢; on Boiler Tubes, 57 1/2 @ 60¢; Oil Well Casing, 43¢ @ 45¢ per foot; do. Tubing, 14¢ @ 15¢.

**Steel Rails.**—The mills here are very busy for this month and next, but are open for engagement for November and December. We quote for near-by delivery at \$30, cash, at mill; for November and December, about \$30.

**Old Rails.**—The offerings continue light, but the demand is less urgent, and in the absence of sales we continue to quote at \$24, although some of the brokers think they could obtain 50¢ more for standard brands for immediate delivery. There have been no foreign Rails sold here to speak of since last winter.

**Railway Track Supplies.**—There is a fair business at unchanged prices. Railway Spikes, 2.6¢, 30 days; Splice Bars, 1.9¢; Track Bolts, 3¢ with square and 3.2¢ with 3.25¢ with hexagon nuts.

**Steel.**—The Merchant Steel trade continues quiet, with prices weak, but without quotable change. Standard brands Refined Cast Steel, 11¢ @ 12¢ per lb.; Crucible Machinery, 6¢ @ 7¢; Bessemer and Open-hearth, do, 4¢ @ 5¢; Bessemer Billets, \$40 @ \$43. The Black Diamond Steel Works are now engaged in making, for an Ohio River towboat, the largest steel shafts ever made in this country.

**Scrap Iron.**—There is a fair demand, and with only very moderate offerings, prices are well maintained. Cargo lots, about \$25.50, and selected yard lots, No. 1, \$25, f.o.b. cars.

**Nails.**—There is no change to note.

Demand is good, and, under light stocks, prices rule steady at \$3, with slight concessions to large buyers.

## PITTSBURGH.

Office of *The Iron Age*, 77 Fourth Avenue, PITTSBURGH, Pa., Sept. 16, 1883.

There has been no important change in general business during the week; possibly the feeling is not quite so good as it was a week ago, owing to reports of the recent frosts, having damaged the crops, corn in particular, in different parts of the country, but the fact that corn has declined 3¢ @ 5¢ per bushel at Chicago within the past day or two is good evidence that the first reports were greatly exaggerated. On the whole, the outlook to-day is not as encouraging for the fall trade as it was a month ago, though there are indications of a more healthy feeling and improvement in general business before the close of the present month. The Black Diamond Steel Works are now engaged in making, for an Ohio River towboat, the largest steel shafts ever made in this country.

**Crop Ends.**—There have been no sales either in American or foreign reported here for months; there is no demand for them, consumers being well supplied. American are still being offered at \$23.50; foreign could not be sold under \$25.50 @ \$26, according to prices at the seaboard.

**Scrap.**—There is not much doing, and prices remain about as last quoted: No. 1 Wrought, \$21 @ \$20, net ton, for Ordinary, and \$23 for Selected Railway; Wrought Turnings, \$16 @ \$18; Old Car Axles, \$32 @ \$33; Old Car Wheels, \$19 @ \$20, gross; Cast Bolts, \$13 @ \$14.

**Coke.**—There is an increasing demand.

Operators are beginning to complain of a scarcity of cars, but prices remain unchanged. We continue to quote at \$1 per ton, free on cars at ovens, in a regular way, and \$1.10 for small foundry orders.

**Window Glass.**—No change in prices; business only fair for the season. Discounts, 60 and 20% on Single, and 70 and 5% on Double Strength, in carload lots.

There are nearly all in operation, some of them are pretty well supplied with orders, but all complain of unremunerative prices. Prices are still quoted on a basis of 1.85¢ @ 1.9¢ for well-assorted orders, usual terms; all Bars can be bought under 2¢.

**Nails.**—The demand continues light for the season, which may be attributed to an impression on the part of some of the largest buyers that prices have not yet reached the lowest point, and they are holding back in consequence, or buying only as actual wants require. The stock both in first and second hands continues light, and, this being the case, it is not likely that any action as regards production will be taken by the Western Association until the next regular monthly meeting, which takes place on the second Wednesday of October. Prices remain as last quoted—\$2.70 @ \$2.75, 60 days, 2% off for cash, in carload lots, and \$2.85 @ \$2.90 in smaller lots.

**Wrought Iron Pipe.**—The demand for Thin Sheets has been well maintained, although the low numbers are rather quiet. Something more than an average business has been done to date, however, and prospects indicate that the entire product of the mills will be required before the close of the year, particularly Thin Sheets. Prices are steady and for small lots about as follows:

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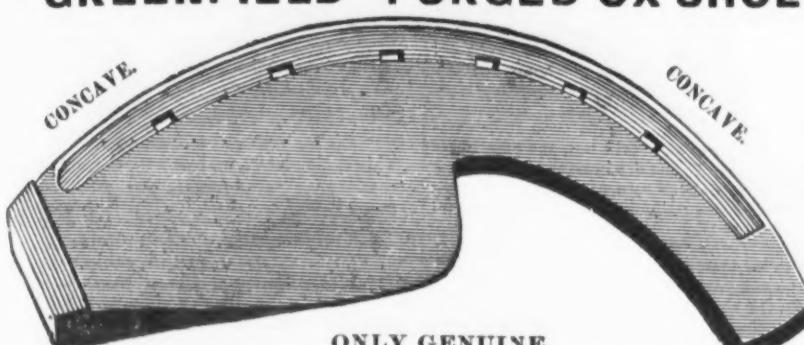
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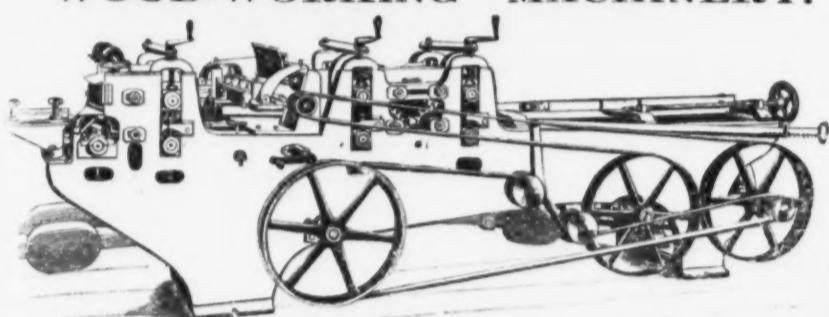
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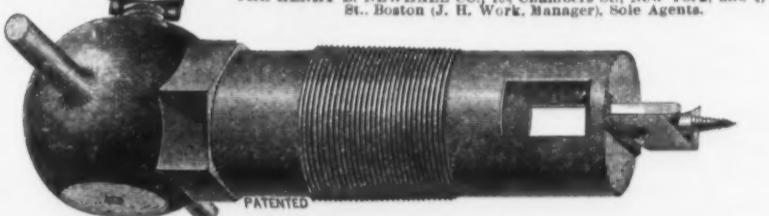
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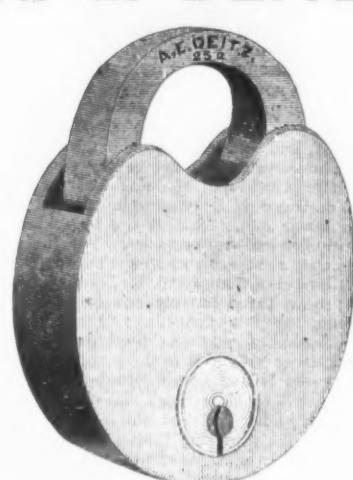
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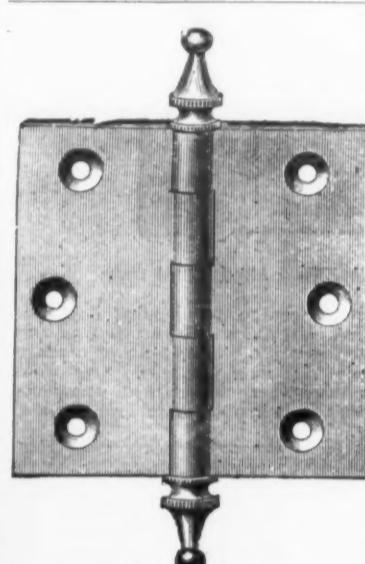
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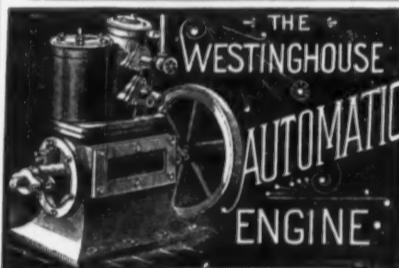
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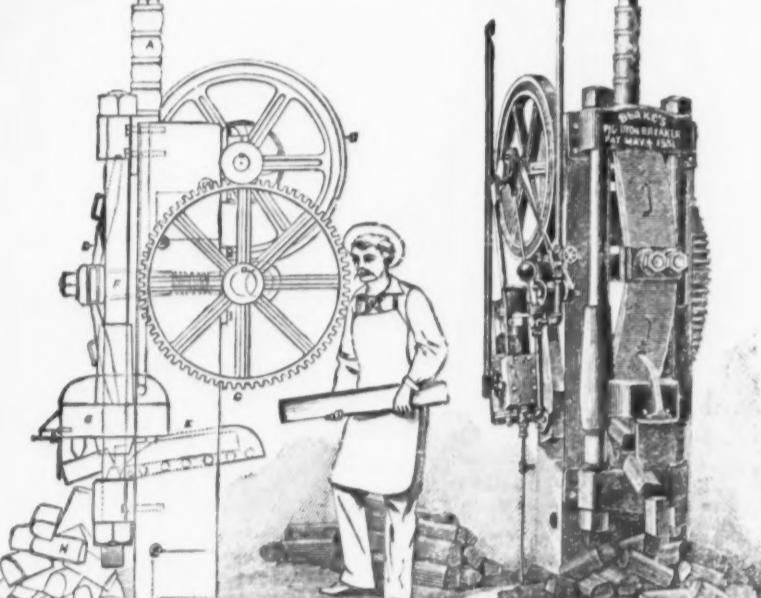
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## The Westminster Ship Canal.

According to the London *Ironmonger*, the promoters of the proposed ship canal from the River Mersey to the outskirts of Manchester do not appear to be disheartened by their defeat in the committee rooms of the House of Lords, but have promptly "pulled themselves together," and are already preparing to go into the fight afresh next session. Instead of being discouraged, indeed, they express the utmost confidence in the ultimate success of their scheme, and regard the decision given against them as being a powerful incentive to renewed exertions. They feel that the cause they have in hand is of such vital importance to a large area of the country that they are resolved to push it forward at all hazards, and totally irrespective of pecuniary cost. Such enthusiasm and perseverance are worthy of any cause, and cannot fail to enlist sympathy and support, not only in Lancashire, but in all quarters where the true importance of extended canalization is properly realized. Whether the proposed ship canal would or would not prove a practical success may be a matter open to debate, but that its construction offers no insurmountable engineering difficulties has already been amply demonstrated. To Manchester and the many large towns contiguous to the capital of the cotton trade, such a canal would unquestionably be of the highest possible value, while to certain parts of Yorkshire and Cheshire it would also prove a great convenience. That the promoters have every confidence in their scheme, and that the public is with them, seems to be proved by the large amount of pecuniary support accorded to the project, even in its present incipient condition. At a meeting of the subscribers to the Parliamentary Fund, held a short time ago, it was shown that over \$233,500 had been received in cash, and \$235,000 spent, the latter sum affording some idea of the cost of promoting an undertaking such as this in the teeth of the truly formidable opposition arrayed against it.

The bill has already encountered, and will again have to face, the combined opposition of all the railway companies running into Liverpool, as well as of the authorities and vested interests of the great port on the Mersey, but it is thought that if the promoters of the canal can show the real necessity that exists and call for its construction, they will triumph over all their opponents, and the Manchester Ship Canal will in due course be an accomplished fact.

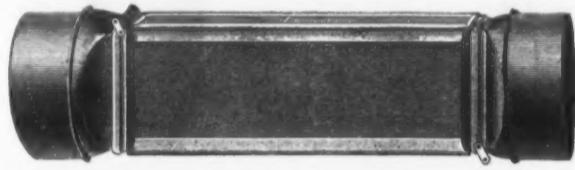
**The Chinese Foot Rule.**—A writer in the *North China Herald* gives some curious information respecting the foot measure in China. At present it varies largely in different parts of the country, and according to different trades; thus the foot of the carpenter's rule at Ningpo is less than 10, while that of the junk builders at Shanghai is nearly 16 inches. But a medium value of 12 inches is not uncommon. The standard foot of the Imperial Board of Works at Peking is 12½ inches. A copper foot measure, dated A.D. 81 is still preserved, and is 9½ inches in length. The width is 1 inch. The small copper coins, commonly called cash, were made of such a size, sometimes, as just to cover an inch on the foot rule. In the course of two centuries it was found that the foot had increased half an inch, and a difference in the dimensions of musical instruments resulted. Want of harmony was the consequence, and accordingly in A.D. 247 a new measure, exactly 9 inches in length, was made the standard. Among the means employed for comparing the old and new foot are mentioned the gnomon of official sun-dials, and the length of certain jade tubes used according to old regulations as standards. One of these latter was so adjusted that an inch in breadth was equal to the breadth of 10 millet seeds. A hundred millet seeds or 10 inches was the foot. The Chinese foot is really based on the human hand, as is the European foot upon the foot. It strikes the Chinese as very incongruous when they hear that we measure cloth, woodwork, masonry, &c., which they regard as especially matters for the hand, by the foot. Of the jade tubes above mentioned there were 12, and these formed the basis for the measurement of liquids and solids 4000 years ago. They are mentioned in the oldest Chinese documents with the astrolabe, the cycle of 60 years, and several of the oldest constellations. It is likely that they will be found to be an importation from Babylon, and in that case the Chinese foot is based on a Babylonian measure of a span, and should be 9 inches in length.

Perhaps the most unsatisfactory things in current scientific literature are the recipes given for making various substances or for performing various operations. A recipe usually has a great fascination for one who has a little knowledge of the arts, and writers much given to the compilation of books like to produce a recipe book, and the greater the number within the covers the greater is the supposed value. Usually these are composed by men who have little practical knowledge, and a still smaller knowledge of chemistry. The result is a most horrible mingling of old and new chemistry, of directions which were obsolete 50 years ago, and of names which no chemist will now recognize. In general it is safe to say that 90 per cent. of the directions given lack that definiteness which is essential to success. Some of them are criminal. For example, not long since many of the scientific papers published directions for etching glass, and without a single word of caution, either in regard to its terribly corrosive qualities or its dangerous fumes, directed their readers to use hydrofluoric acid. Those who know enough to safely handle the acid would also know all about its properties and how to use it for glass etching, and for those who had not this knowledge or experience it would be about as dangerous as giving a pound of gunpowder to a man unacquainted with its properties and remarking that it was combustible. Not long since one of our exchanges suggested that two ounces of pure rubber in thin slices dissolved in a pound of bi-sulphide of carbon would make a good cement for rubber belting. It adds, if kept long it thickens very soon. Only imagine some one with a leather belt to mend under-

taking without further directions to make a pound of cement with bi-sulphide of carbon. The attempt would probably cause him to abhor bi-sulphide to the end of his life.

## Adjustable Double Elbow.

We show in the accompanying illustrations a decided novelty in the elbow line. Fig. 1 represents the device arranged as a straight piece of pipe. One peculiarity is a square section having nickel-plated corners. Above and below it terminates in round collars. These collars, however, can be slipped out from the square section, and for this purpose have what might be called a square ferrule. Their peculiarity is in having a hinge at one side which enables them to be turned so as to form an angle with the straight pipe. Fig. 2 shows the upper collar turned to the right through an angle of about 45°, and the lower collar turned in the opposite direction to similar angle. In other words, an elbow having any angle can be made by using the hinge of which we have spoken. This is a flat-back elbow, as is shown in the cut. Fig. 3 represents an elbow making a full right angle. By removing the ferrules from the square tube they can be put in so as to be parallel with each other, or stand at right angles, or both to point in the same direction. The pair make a complete double offset elbow that is available in put-



Adjustable Double Elbow.—Fig. 1.—Both Elbows Straightened Out.

ting up stoves so as to enable the elbow to be used in any place where the stove-pipe hole and the collar of the stove are within the reach of the length of square pipe. The hole may be above or below, to the right or to the left, and yet the adjustable elbow will fit exactly without the necessity of using tools. As will be seen by a moment's thought, it is necessary to have the back or curved surface of the elbow telescope out flat, in or under, not to obstruct the draft when the line of pipe is parallel with the square section. This is accomplished by a pair of guides in the thimble which slides into the square part, the back side by its elasticity fitting either straight or curved, and the offset or the angle, as will be understood, may be made from 1 inch to the full

teamster's charge for hauling it a mile. The railroads did all the carrying, amounting to over 360,000,000 tons, at a charge of only 1.2 cents per mile. One would think this is cheap enough in all conscience, and that it is impossible to bring it down lower.

## Reversed Blue Process.

A firm in New York have been recently advertising a reversed blue-process paper, or positive ferro-prussiate process, by which dark-blue lines can be obtained on a white background at the first impression. Almost every one who has had occasion to use the blue process has at first felt that a means of

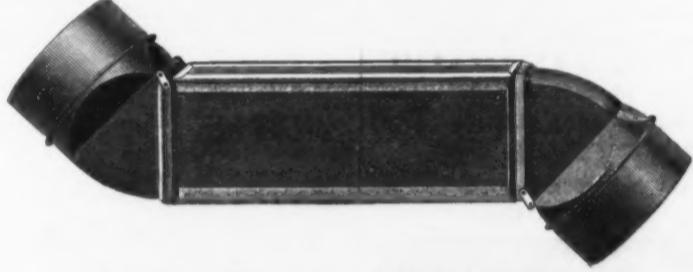


Fig. 2.—The Elbows at an Angle of 45 Degrees.

getting a reversed print would be very valuable, and in some of our best establishments a large amount of ingenuity has been expended in order to discover means for doing this. It has been discovered in most shops, however, that white lines on a dark ground are vastly more durable and more clearly read, in case the drawing has received careless handling, than dark lines on a white ground, and hence there is comparatively little demand for a reversed process.

As we were curious to know what the new process was like, we visited the place and tried to buy a small quantity of paper in order to try it. We were politely told that we had no facilities for trying it, that it worked perfectly, but that we should be

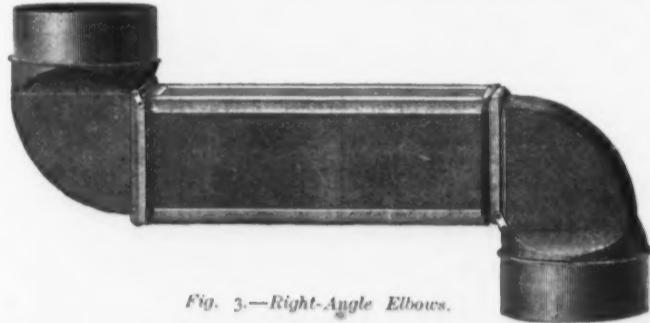


Fig. 3.—Right-Angle Elbows.

unable to do anything with it. We replied that we were prepared to obtain any materials or any apparatus that were needed to undertake a demonstration of the convenience and working of the process, and would give it a most impartial test. Nothing, however, could induce the salesman, who was also a member of the firm, to sell anything less than a roll. The profuse explanations and apologies which accompanied this refusal led us to have some suspicions in regard to it, and, as we did not wish to buy a roll of 11 yards for the sake of using a yard or two, we dropped the matter. We succeeded in finding a sample of the prints made by this method, which shows a very fair Prussian blue line on white ground, but the directions for use are not encouraging. First, a zinc dish is used, to contain a saturated solution of the yellow prussiate of potash. This solution is made by pouring equal weights of water over the potash in an earthen pot, and, second, there must be a wooden dish lined with hard rubber, glass or lead, or any other material not affected by one of the two solutions to be put into it. The solution for this dish is either made of 1½ ounces of hydrochloric acid and 1½ pints of water, or 15 drams of sulphuric acid to the 1½ pints of water. Lastly, of course, there is the usual zinc dish to wash the prints. For each of the dishes a "bristle brush" is necessary. For the first one it must be about 3 inches wide with 3-inch bristles. That for

## Cheap Transportation.

The demand for cheapness seems perpetual and insatiable. All the strength of human muscles, all the ingenuity of human brains, and all the power of enormous machinery are taxed to produce articles to eat, drink or wear, a little cheaper this year than they were last, and, although the effort is continually successful, we are never satisfied. No matter what level of cheapness may be reached, there is a perpetual demand for a still lower one. This is most strikingly illustrated in railway carriage. The time is within easy recollection when it cost \$1.80 to send a barrel of flour from St. Louis to New York; now three barrels can be sent for that sum. A few years ago it cost more than a bushel of corn was worth on the Mississippi River to send it to the seacoast; that is, for every bushel of this grain that was sent by rail to New York, another bushel and a half had to be sent along to pay the freight on it; now one bushel of corn will pay the freight charges on nearly three bushels. "Poor's Manual" for 1882 shows that the charge on all the railway freight moved in New England last year was 1.07 cents a mile per ton; the charge in the Middle States was 1 cent; the charge in the Southern States was 1.8 cents, and in the Western States 1.2 cents. These figures will be better understood by remembering that a ton is a two-horse load, and that \$1 to \$1.50 is the

the acid must be entirely of wood, the bristles being 5 inches in width and 2 inches long. The picture, of course, as the chemist will see from examination of the directions, is produced by development, and several slips have to be put under the tracing, withdrawn from the edge from time to time and developed in order to ascertain how the printing is progressing. These are immersed in the first dish for a half-minute or so, to ascertain when the exposure has proceeded far enough. When these slips remain perfectly clear the tracing is ready for development. The sheet has to be floated on the solution of prussiate of potash, and care must be taken not to allow the solution to get upon the back.

We should be very glad to hear from those who have used the process and can tell us something in regard to its practical working as compared with the ordinary blue prints. Although hardly the thing for general shop work, yet there are many places where a possible process might prove useful. We are very sorry that we had no opportunity to try it, as it would be of value in certain lines of work that we have to pursue occasionally. In the circular that we have received, the paper is stated to be C. L. J.'s patent, from which, we judge, it is not desired to have the patent known, nor the name of the patentee.

## Finance in the Dominion.

The failure of the Bank of Montreal, with nearly \$3,000,000 of liabilities and total assets amounting to \$3,805,207, is one of the events of the week. According to a Montreal paper, the bank's embarrassment is due to the large expansion of its business and the difficulty of realizing quickly on outstanding loans. Among the assets which must be classed as doubtful are "the current loans, discounts or advances to the public," which are put down at \$2,015,106, and we shall not be surprised if it appears on examination that "the public" are conspicuously represented among the directors themselves. Previous exhibits of the condition of Canadian banks have disclosed a weakness in that direction. Taken together, the banks in the Dominion represent a large capital, put down in the August statement, just completed, at \$227,200,000, and they occasionally have large sums for use in Wall street operations.

The paid-up capital of 39 banks making returns to the Government is, in round numbers, \$61,000,000; notes in circulation, \$32,000,000; Government deposits, \$8,300,000; public deposits payable on demand, \$45,000,000; deposits payable after notice, \$56,000,000; due to banks in foreign countries and the United Kingdom, \$1,800,000; total liabilities, \$145,000,000. The assets, made up in round numbers, are as follows:

Specie	\$6,500,000
Dominion notes	11,200,000
Notes of other banks	6,100,000
Balances due from other banks in Canada	3,100,000
Balances due from banks in the United States and foreign countries	13,000,000
Due from British banks	3,700,000
Advances made, for which stock is held as collateral security	11,000,000
Loans to corporations	15,000,000
Current loans to the public	142,000,000
Discounts overdue	1,700,000
Total assets, including bank premises and mortgages, amount to	\$227,200,000

Of this amount, according to a special dispatch from Ottawa, the directors have loaned themselves over \$8,000,000, which were nominally the same as now. There is a reduction of over \$10,000,000 in favor of deposits bearing interest, which indicates that demand deposits have fallen off, and that money is being withdrawn from active commercial investments and placed at low rates of interest in banking institutions. There is a reduction of nearly \$1,000,000 in specie held during the past year, although the amount is still large. There has been a large shrinkage in advances made for which stocks are held as collateral. Loans to private corporations have largely increased. Of the total sum of \$2,700,000 of Government deposits payable on demand, held by banks, 50 per cent. is held by the Bank of Montreal. Some of the best financiers of the Dominion have heretofore given ample warning against undue expansion in favor of speculative enterprise.

Judging from the number of exhibitors of peat fuel at the late Moscow (Russia) exhibition, it would appear that the production of this material is increasing to a considerable extent. It is, in fact, stated to be a most important industry in Russia, as wood is growing dearer every year, and in many industrial localities the woods have become entirely exhausted. The peat bogs of Russia, however, are practically inexhaustible, extending, as they do, over an area of thousands of square miles. Peat is supplied to the railways, factories and manufacturing establishments in general. One large firm of cotton spinners in the Government of Vladivostok produce something like 144,000 tons per annum, which is all consumed in their own factories.

## RECENT BOOKS.

**Crane.**—*The Smithy and Forge.* By W. J. E. Crane. 146 illustrations, 195 pages, 12mo, cloth; London, 1883. \$1.00

This is the latest addition to the popular and reliable Weale's series, and we believe it is the first book in the English language that treats exclusively upon the art of the blacksmith in special relation to Horse Shoeing. The remarks upon this subject show careful preparation. The anatomy of the horse's foot is described and illustrated, together with the processes of fitting and nailing, &c. Considerable space is given to descriptions of the Forge and Blacksmiths' Tools in general, and the methods of forging shoes, nails, chains, anchors and miscellaneous articles. Carriage Ironing and Spring Making are treated upon, and there are chapters upon Ornamental Ironwork and Bench Work, the whole forming a work of decided value to workers in iron, and especially to those interested in the particular subjects discussed.

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## The Divining-Rod.\*

BY ROSSITER W. RAYMOND.

The extent to which the divining-rod is still used in this country for the detection of hidden treasure, mineral veins or springs, is much greater than educated persons would be likely to suppose. For many years wells have frequently been located by its aid in New England, where the belief is widely extended among the farmers that in the hands of peculiarly gifted persons this instrument possesses special virtue. Large numbers of the oil wells of Pennsylvania have been bored at points designated by the so-called "oil-smellers." More than one adept with this instrument is practicing now in the Western mining region. I encountered, a few months ago, in Southern Colorado, a party of capitalists who were accompanied by such an expert, and whose purpose was to discover a mine by his aid, and to buy the property thus made valuable. Still more recently a paragraph in the Tombstone *Epitaph*, of Arizona, announced that a party of gentlemen from Chicago, whose names were given, had been scouring over the hills in the neighborhood of Tombstone for more than a week, in company with an expert of Colorado, who had been employed to ascertain "with his well-known divining-rod" the localities of mineral wealth, and who had declared the existence of large bodies of ore in at least two places not yet developed. It is also reported, with what truth I do not know, that the Central Pacific and Southern Railroad companies have employed the divining-rod successfully in the discovery of water, and have located by this means their artesian wells in the desert. Last, but not least, a small book entitled "The Divining-Rod," and published in Cleveland, in 1876, contains an essay on this subject, read before the Civil Engineers' Club of the Northwest, at Chicago, in 1875, by Mr. Charles Latimer, a well-known engineer who has had charge of several important railways, and who testifies in the most unqualified manner to the virtues of the divining-rod as a means of determining the position and the depth of subterranean water-courses, and claims to have discovered certain new and important laws of its operation connecting, if not identifying, it with the force of electricity.

These circumstances, taken together with the fact that the "dowsers," or experts with the rod, still enjoy considerable local authority in Cornwall, and that believers in its efficacy may still be encountered among the German miners (although I think in that country the faith is more nearly extinct than elsewhere), certainly justify me in regarding this subject as one not solely of historical interest. Yet a consideration of its history and literature will throw important light upon the question, whether the phenomena which it has presented, and continues to present, are to be ranked under the head of self-delusion, deliberate deceit, or both; or, on the other hand, indicate, after all reasonable deductions for human error and credulity, a residuum of important scientific truth.

Before sketching the history of this instrument it will be well to say a few words concerning its form, material and use. Yet this is a work of no little difficulty. The immense literature of the divining-rod shows nothing more clearly than the boundless confusions and contradictions of its advocates and professors. Of the dozen different schools of practice, each is necessarily obliged to reject half of the asserted principles and certified facts put forward by the rest. The most common divining-rod, perhaps, has always been a forked branch of witch-hazel in the shape of the letter Y. This wood may have been selected because it forks in such a way as to give two branches of equal size, or because of its supposed affinity for springs of water. But other woods, such as peach, ash, pitch-pine, and even metals, have been recommended at different times, and different professors of the art have also varied the shape of the rod, employing sometimes a straight twig with a small fork only at one end, or an elastic twig or whalebone without any fork. The dowsing-rod used by the expert mentioned in the Tombstone *Epitaph*, is, I believe, an instrument made of two prongs of whalebone united in a stem which terminates in a case similar to a rifle cartridge. The contents of this case are a secret. (Similar cases, used in the Middle Ages, are said to have contained mercury.) This rod, like the ordinary forked hazel switches, is held in the two hands, each grasping the extremity of a prong, with the fingers closed not too tightly and the palms upward, the shank or stem of the rod being horizontal or vertical, or variously inclined, according to the principles of the practitioner. When carried in this manner by the operator, walking over the surface of the ground, the rod is said to turn or dip above treasure, mineral veins, springs, &c.; but there is an elaborate and complicated science based upon the various degrees, directions and force of this dipping. Unfortunately, the rules as determined by one or another celebrated operator have been found not to work for his rivals or successors, so that each authority lays down rules of its own. The straight rods were either balanced in various ways on one or both hands, or sprung bowl-like between the two hands. The most peculiar rod described in ancient books was made of two pieces of wood, one of which was pointed and the other provided in the end with a socket. This rod, being delicately held, was said to indicate the presence of the object sought for by a peculiar revolution of the point in the socket.

An inquiry into the uses of such rods leads us at once to the history of our subject, in the study of which it will appear that divining-rods were first used in antiquity mainly or wholly for moral purposes; that in the Middle Ages their employment was for a long period confined to the discovery of material objects; that toward the end of the seventeenth century the moral use was again asserted, and that in the eighteenth century the divining-rod was relegated to the material sphere, and assumed the comparatively modest functions in the discharge of which it still lingers among us. I would recom-

mend to those who have not the means of an extended research the perusal of the book of Professor Fiske, of Harvard, on "Myths and Myth Makers" (Boston, 1873), in the second essay of which, on "The Descent of Fire," this subject is treated in the light of comparative mythology; also the work of Louis Figuer, "Histoire du Merveilleux dans les Temps Modernes" (Paris, 1860), half of the second volume of which is devoted to the divining-rod; and, finally, the book of Chevreul, "La Baguette Divinatoire" (Paris, 1853), which is a conclusive summary from the standpoint of modern science and experiment. I do not mention the work of Mr. Baring-Gould, "Curious Myths of the Middle Ages," which Professor Fiske compliments with frequent quotations, for the simple reason that Mr. Baring-Gould's essay on the divining-rod is made up almost wholly of portions of Figuer's work, often translated *verbatim* and without credit. A brief, interesting and impartial discussion of the divining-rod from the standpoint of the Middle Ages, together with a curious engraving illustrating its use, will be found in the well-known work of Agricola, "De Re Metallica" (Basle, 1546), published in the sixteenth century both in Latin and in German, copies of which, though not very common, are still to be met with in the antiquarian bookstores of Europe. I believe the library of the School of Mines of Columbia College contains a German copy. In the preparation of this paper I have made use of the Latin edition, which is the only one in my possession. An excellent summary of the subject, containing many curious details, will be found also in Prof. Moritz Gaetzschmann's "Auf-und Untersuchung der Lagerstätten" (Freiberg, 1857). The Brooklyn Library contains a copy of a work entitled, "Jacob's Rod. A Translation from the French of a Rare and Curious Work, A. D., 1693, on the Art of Finding Springs, Mines and Minerals by means of the Hazel Rod. To which is Appended Researches, with Proof of the Existence of a More Certain and Far Higher Faculty, with Clear and Ample Instructions for Using it." Published by the translator, Thomas Welton, 13 Grafton street, Fitzroy Square, London. This book was published, I believe, in 1875. The title-page bears no date. The original French treatise, the translation of which occupies the first part, is probably the one entitled "La Vergé de Jacob, ou l'Art de Trouver les Trésors," which Figuer (Histoire, &c., vol. ii, p. 257) speaks of as well known to the adepts in occult sciences, and Chevreul (La Baguette, &c., p. 30) mentions as an example of the use of the term "Jacob's Rod" in those sciences, to signify a rod possessing marvelous properties. The origin of this significance will be found in Genesis, xxx. I suspect that neither Figuer nor Chevreul had seen this book; both of them fail to give either the name of the author or the date of publication, an omission especially noticeable in the case of Chevreul, who is usually both full and careful in his references. The translator gives the date as 1693, and names the author as M. Baritel. Of the fidelity of the translation I have no guarantee except internal evidence, from which I judge that it is honest rather than intelligent. This translator, Mr. Walton, is himself a mesmerist, an electro-biologist, and declares his wife to be possessed of clairvoyant powers, of the exercise of which he believes the discovery of water, metals, &c., to be but one sub-division. The object of his translation and "addenda" is to connect the ancient phenomena of rhabdomancy, the observations and theories of Reichenbach, the fanciful speculations of Bulwer-Lytton, and numerous modern wonders (accounts of which he extracts from the *Spiritual Magazine*), and his own and his wife's alleged experience. To the works above named I am indebted for nearly all the facts cited in this paper, and for many quotations made at second hand.

Professor Fiske, following Dr. Kuhn, whose treatise on the "Descent of Fire" was published in Berlin in 1859, traces the divining-rod to a widespread Aryan myth, connected with the forked lightning. Without going so far back, we may find in written history many evidences of the use of the rod, not only as a symbol of earthly power, but also as the instrument of supernatural effects, and particularly of divination. It will be remembered that the Egyptian sorcerers, confronted by Moses, carried rods, as Moses and Aaron also did. The prophet Hosea denounces the use of rods for divination by the Jews (Hosea 4:2). According to another prophet (Ezekiel 21:26) the King of Babylon consulted rods or arrows to decide his course. The Scythians, Persians and Medes used them. Herodotus says that the Scythians detected perjurers by means of rods. The word Rhabdomancy, originated by the Greeks, shows that they practiced this art, and the magic power of the rods of Minerva, Circe, and Hermes or Mercury, is familiar to classical students. The Litur of the Romans, with which the augurs divined, was apparently an arched rod. Cicero, who had himself been an augur, says in his treatise on divination that he does not see how two augurs, meeting in the street, could look each other in the face without laughing. At the end of the first book of this treatise he quotes a couplet from the old Latin poet Ennius, representing a person from whom a diviner had demanded a fee as replying to this demand, "I will pay you out of the treasures which you enable me to find." This ancient joke, by the way, has been adopted in all seriousness by the "oil-smellers" of Pennsylvania, who, as I am informed, are accustomed to locate oil wells on precisely this condition, receiving nothing if the well proves unsuccessful, and \$50 if oil is struck.

Marco Polo reports the use of rods or arrows for divination throughout the Orient, and a later traveler describes it among the Turks. Tacitus says that the ancient Germans used for this purpose branches of fruit trees. One of their tribes—the Frisians—employed rods in church to detect murders. Finally, if we may trust Gonzalez de Mendoza, the Chinese, who seem to have had everything before anybody else, used pieces of wood for divination. Thus we perceive that the application of the divining-rod in historical antiquity was mainly or wholly moral; that is, it was employed to detect guilt, decide future events, advise courses of action, &c. There are but two passages

which have been quoted to prove its use for physical purposes—one from Ctesias (*apud phot. bibl. cod.*), who speaks of a rod of the wood *Parebus*, which attracted gold, silver, other metals, stones and several other things; the other from Cicero ("De Officiis," lib. i.), who says: "If we could obtain with the so-called divine rod everything pertaining to food and clothing" (*ad victum culfumque*), &c.

On the other hand, the silence of many authors is significant, as Chevreul has pointed out. Varro does not mention the use of the rod for the discovery of subterranean waters or metals. Vitruvius, discussing the means of discovering springs, says nothing of it. Pliny, in Book XXX of his "Natural History," omits it from his enumeration of magical arts and methods, and in Book XXXI, describing (after Vitruvius) the means of discovering springs, and in Book XXXIII, describing explorations for metals, is equally silent concerning it. Columella, Palladius, and in the sixth century Cassiodorus, are likewise dumb, though the latter in one of his epistles ("Theodoric LIII") extols the utility of the professional water-discoverers. Even as late as 1569 a book printed in Orleans ("L'art et Science de Trouver les Eaux et Fontaines Cachees sous Terre. Autrement que par les Moyens Vulgaires des Agriculteurs et Architectes," par Jacques Besson, Dauphinois, mathemeticien), contains no allusion to the rod. It is a curious circumstance that this work emanated from Dauphiny, the home, a century later, of the most famous diviners and water discoverers.

But the alchemical literature brings the physical uses of the divining-rod to the front. The first mention is usually credited to the "Novum Testamentum" of Basil Valentine, a Benedictine monk and hermeneutic philosopher of the fifteenth century. But it must be remembered that the existence, even, of this man is not beyond doubt. It is attested by Gaderus "Historia Erfordensis," (1675), who says that Basil was living at the convent of St. Peter's, at Erfurt, in 1413. Yet the "Testamentum" was actually first printed at the beginning of the seventeenth century, though manuscript copies had been circulated earlier. Of these, Chevreul possesses one (a French translation) dated 1651, and from it quotes the famous passage according to which, at the time of the writer, the divining-rod was worn in the belt or the hat, and was used to discover metals. Basil describes seven varieties of the rod, according to its different motions. Whatever its antiquity, the use of the rod to discover hidden treasure or metallic ore became general in Germany, and was extended thence through Flanders, England, Sweden, France, Italy and Spain before the end of the seventeenth century. It must be remembered that in those days the practice of burying money and plate was universal. A rod that would discover buried treasure only would, at the present time, be of comparatively little value. We know well enough where the large masses of gold and silver are piled. It is not ignorance, but bolts and bars, that prevent our getting at them; and a large class of the diviners of the Middle Ages would be obliged, if they lived to-day and practiced their profession, to become burglars or cashiers.

The scientific explanation of the divining-rod at this period, like the scientific explanation of nearly all facts in chemistry and physics, was "affinity," a word under which was concealed a little science together with a vast amount of ignorance and superstition. Philip Melancthon (1497-1560), the friend of Luther, adopted this theory to explain the effects of the divining-rod. We must confess that in an age when the attraction of the magnet for iron and of electricity for light bodies was known, but not understood, there was no necessary absurdity in supposing that similar phenomena might be exhibited by other classes of substances.

And this natural presumption, joined with the inherent credulity of ignorance and the tendency to generalize upon imperfect data, caused a very general acceptance of the alleged operations of the divining-rod as true, and consequently the promulgation of crude quasi-scientific theories to account for it. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the belief in demoniac agencies was still active and all-pervading, so that when facts could not be scientifically explained they were at once referred to the devil direct. So long as the discussion remained within the field of science it was conducted with courage and candor; but when it entered the demoniac domain, the boldest philosopher, unless he were willing to sell his soul to Satan, became dumb. This may explain the attitude of the great Agricola ("De Re Metallica," lib. ii.), a keen observer and wise reasoner, who, after saying that the alleged virtues of the divining-rod are subject to much dispute, and stating both sides of the dispute with admirable clearness, demolishes in a few words the supposed analogies of magnetism and electricity, but declares that if the divining-rod derives any power from spells and incantations, that is a matter neither permissible nor agreeable for him to discuss. He proceeds, moreover, to assert as the general result of experience in his time that the professors of the divining-rod, though they sometimes succeed in discovering veins, quite as frequently fail, and have to dig like other people if they wish to find anything. Wherefore, he advises the respectable and sober miner to study the indications of nature, and then dig at once, without further fooling. In the quaint woodcut which accompanies this passage a miner is represented in the background as cutting his hazel twig, while another in the foreground is proceeding with it in due form for the discovery of the mine; and (whether in sarcasm or not, I do not undertake to say) at the very point to which the latter is steering, two of Agricola's "good and sober" miners have already found ore by the homely process of digging.

Paracelsus (1495-1541) condemns in his works, as uncertain, illusory and unlawful, the use of the rod. His disciples did not uniformly agree with this view. Goclenius, author of "Essays on the Virtue of Plants and the Unguent of Arms," believes in the efficacy of the rod and does not condemn its use. Libavius, author of the "Syntagma Aranorum Chamicorum" (died 1616) believed in it from experience, and explains its action by sympathetic affinity. This theory, already

announced by Melancthon, was also held by his son-in-law, Peucer, by Porta ("Magia Naturalis," 1560, lib. xx., cap. viii.), by Keckerman (1573-1609), "Systemata Physica" (lib. i., cap. viii.), by the author of one of the discourses published with those of Maiolus, Bishop of Volturara (1614), and by Michael Mayer, the prolific author of alchemical allegory, "Verum Inventum, hoc est Munera Germaniae" (ap. iv.), who, describing the invention of gunpowder in Germany and the use of hazel-charcoal in its original manufacture, mentions the sympathy which hazel-wood has for metals, and its consequent employment in the form of the divining-rod. On the other hand, the Jesuit father Laurentius Forer, "Viridarium Philosophicum seu Disputationes de Selectis in Philosophia Materis" (1624), condemns the use of the rod as a superstitious practice. We must distinguish, therefore, three different views of the question; two of which accepted the efficacy of the rod as proved, and ascribed it respectively to a physical property of the rod, and to demoniac agency, while the third discredited the alleged facts, and pronounced the practice to be a superstition.

A fourth view was indeed advanced, according to which the operator, as well as the rod, was the recipient of a divinely-given faculty. It was no doubt with the purpose of avoiding the odium attached to dealings with the Evil One that the professors of this science, particularly in Germany, surrounded it with ceremonies and formulas of a highly pious character. It is true that the rules sometimes prescribed for the cutting of the twig partook largely of heathen sorcery and astrology. They were indeed, to some extent, unconscious reminiscences of the old Scandinavian, and even of the Aryan, mythology. But this was atoned for when the rod was duly Christianized by baptism, being laid for this purpose in the bed with a newly baptized child, by whose Christian name it was afterward addressed. The following formula, cited by Gaetzschmann, may serve as an example. "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, I adjure thee, Augusta Carolina, that thou tell me, so pure and true as Mary the Virgin was, who bore our Lord Jesus Christ, how many fathoms it is from here to the ore!" In this case, the rod was expected to reply by dipping a certain number of times, corresponding to the number of fathoms. Such devices, however, were not everywhere successful in diverting from the practitioners of this occult science the evil name of sorcery. A striking and pathetic instance is furnished in the seventeenth century by the history of the Baron and Baroness Beaumole. The Baron, born in Brabant, devoted himself to mineralogy and mining, and became, undoubtedly, one of the foremost mine engineers of his time. He visited and studied the mines of Germany, Hungary, Bohemia, Tyrol, Silesia, Moravia, Poland, Sweden, Italy, Spain, Scotland, England and France. The emperor Rudolph and Mathias appointed him counsellor and commissioner-general of the mines of Hungary. The Archduke Leopold made him director of the mines of Tyrol and Trent. The dukes of Bavaria, Neuburg and Cleves gave him the same title. Finally, the Pope did the same for all the Papal States. He appears to have amassed from these various employments a considerable fortune.

In 1600 he was engaged by the comptroller-general of the mines of France to open mines in Languedoc and some other provinces, and in 1626 this commission was still further extended. During this period he met and married his wife, who devoted herself with enthusiasm to his profession, studying and traveling extensively with him in Germany, Italy, Sweden, and perhaps Spain. They even made a voyage to the shores of the New World. In 1627 their house was robbed under the legal forms of search on the charge of sorcery preferred by a local official. Their loss was estimated at 100,000 crowns. They easily obtained acquittal of the charge; but it is an instructive commentary on the justice of the time that they never were able to recover their property. They went to Hungary, but returned to France in 1632 under a new commission from Louis XIII. In this year the baroness, who was an accomplished author, published an account of 150 mines already discovered in France, and of some medicinal springs. They expended, in further explorations, nearly the whole of their fortune, but were unable, in the face of their jealous rivals and enemies, to obtain from the Government the grants which had been promised them, and by means of which they expected to reimburse themselves. Finally, the baroness published a work, addressed to Richelieu, and entitled "The Restitution of Pluto" (reprinted at Paris in 1773), in which, with eloquent indignation, she declared the deserts of her husband and herself, and asserted their right to the rewards promised them, urging the cardinal minister at the same time, by every consideration of the glory and greatness of France, to encourage the development of its mineral resources. Unfortunately, in this work she furnished new material for the slanderous accusation of sorcery. In magnifying the art of discovering mines and springs, and the skill required for this purpose, she gives a description of the means employed, showing that these hidden treasures are to be detected:

1. By digging, which is the least important way.  
2. By the herbs and plants which grow above springs of water.  
3. By the taste of the waters which flow from them.  
4. By the vapors which arise from them at sunrise.  
5. By the use of 16 scientific instruments and of seven rods (the seven rods of Basil Valentine) connected with the seven planets, &c.

The first four means were undoubtedly real and really employed. Under the fifth head we have an illustration of what is so common in the alchemical and other medieval writers, namely, the covering of the facts of nature and the methods of investigation with assumed mystery, to hide them from the vulgar. So long as the baron and baroness were spending their own money for the good of the State, they were permitted to go on, and even received complimentary notices from time to time, which, indeed, could not be withheld from persons of such eminent reputation. But when they became troublesome in their demands for more substantial favors and came into collision with the "rings" which infested the kingdom, the charges of sorcery renewed against them furnished a convenient pretext for putting them out of the way. Richelieu may even have supposed that he was behaving in this case with lenity, since instead of having them burned to death, as he did with another sorcerer of the same period, he only put the baron in the Bastille (1642) and his wife in Vincennes, where they soon (about 1645) died in destitution and misery, victims not so much of the superstition as of the corruption of the times. It will be noted that the treatise of the baroness did not claim from the divining-rod any moral virtue. What the Beaumoles appear to have done for this instrument was to bring forward its use in the discovery of springs as well as metals. The literature of that period seems to ignore in the main any powers of the rod in prophecy or moral discrimination.

The Jesuit father, Caeius, "Mineralogia" (1636), inclines to deny the efficacy of the rod. Robert Fludd, "Philosophia Moysaea" (1638), after mentioning the sympathy existing between the crab or oyster and the moon, myrtle and the pomegranate, adduces as an instance of similar sympathy between plants and minerals the dipping of a hazel-rod over a vein of silver or gold. The celebrated chemist, Rudolph Glauber, "Pars Secunda Operis Mineralis" (1652), affirms from experience, and attributes to a physical property, the efficacy of the rod in exploring for metals. The Jesuit father, Jean Francois, "Science des Eaux" (1653), seems to admit the power of the rod to discover springs, but condemns its use. The erudite Jesuit father, Kircher, "De Arte Magnetica" (1654), "De Mondo Subterraneo" (1678), having proved by experiment that rods of wood alleged to be sympathetic with certain metals, were, when balanced upon pivots, not at all affected by the proximity of these metals, concluded that the sympathy was chimerical. In his later work he declared roundly that if the movement of the rod did not proceed from a joke or a cheat on the part of the operator, it was not natural, and ridiculed those who fancied it could be caused by a vapor disengaged from the metal.

Edo Neuhusius, "Sacrorum Fastidius" (1658), believes in the working of the rod, and attributes it to sympathy, or to the stars, or some other cause. The Jesuit father, Gaspard Schott, "Physica Curiosa" (1662), pronounces the use of the rod superstitious, or rather diabolical. But he adds in a foot-note that pious and honest men have assured him both with regard to the turning of the rod and with regard to the striking of the hours by a ring suspended within a glass (*putsum annuli filo intra scyphum suspensi et horas indicantis*), that the experiment does not always succeed, and hence he will not assert that the demon is always acting. The argument appears to be that, if the devil had it in his power, it would not fail. The pious and honest men aforesaid also protested that the phenomenon was natural and not due to fraud or fancy. "Sed nondum persuaserunt," pithily concludes Schott. The passage is noteworthy as containing a reference to the wonderful pendulum, which became, at a later day, the subject of scientific treatises, and still survives as a puzzle and amusement for children for all growths. Sylvester Rattray, "Theatrum Sympatheticum" (1662), believes in the sympathy of vegetables with minerals. According to him, the hazel is suitable for the discovery of silver, wild pine for lead, olive and palm for gold and silver.

It was in 1666 that Robert Boyle put the question, as member of the Royal Society of London, whether the divining-rod is really moved by the proximity of metal—a pertinent inquiry which no one seems to have answered by authoritative and thorough experiments, unless we may accept as sufficient those of Kircher, above mentioned. The accumulation of contradictory testimony from witnesses of all degrees of competency went on. Matthias Willenius, a German author, published in 1671 or 1672 a book called "A True Account of the Rod of Mercury," in which, as the title indicates, he appealed to astrology for the partial explanation of his theme, asserting that the influence of the stars under which the operator is born contributes to the turning of the rod over in itself, "by the effect of the harmony established between heaven and earth." From this, "Tractatus de Fascinatione" (1674), says that, after long hesitation, he has decided that the use of the rod is lawful. The Jesuit father, Dechales, "De Fontibus Naturalibus" (1674), inclines to the same opinion, and speaks of the hazel as having been in all times (*omni tempore*) used as an index to springs. This is a curious illustration of the rapidity with which a tradition may come to be considered immortal. In fact, if we except the striking of the rock in the desert by Moses—which is certainly not a case in point—the first trace of the use of the rod for discovering springs in the works of the Beaumoles, scarcely



Spring, Soring, Leach's Patent	do	\$7.00	dis 60¢ to 8¢
Bensis & Call Co.'s Spring and Check	do	\$1.14	dis 40¢
Solid Timmers	do	\$1.14	dis 40¢
<b>Ball.</b>			
Sliding Door, Wrought Brass, 7' 5" x 4' 6" x 1' 6"	do	\$1.40	dis 40¢
Sliding Door, Bronze Wre. Iron, 7' 5" x 4' 6" x 1' 6"	do	\$1.40	dis 40¢
Sliding Door, Iron, Painted, 7' 5" x 4' 6" x 1' 6"	do	\$1.40	dis 40¢
Hinge Door, Inch	do	16	5¢
Per 100 feet \$2.00	3.60	5.60	dis to 10¢
B. D. for N. Hangers	Small, Med. Large		
Per 100 feet	2.10	2.70	30¢ to 5¢
Terry's Wrought Iron, 3¢ per foot	do	do	do
<b>Hangers.</b>			
J. R. Torrey Razor Co.	do	15¢	
<b>Hinges.</b>			
Genuine Emerson	do	45¢	
Badger's (not Emerson)	do	33¢	
Imitation Emerson	do	20¢	
Hunt's	do	15¢	
Chase's	do	15¢	
Baunders'	do	15¢	
Torrey's	do	20¢	
<b>Wheels.</b>			
Iron and Tinned, new list, Dec. 10, 1882	do	10¢	
In Iron, new list, Dec. 10, 1882	do	10¢	
Copper Rivets and Burns	do	50¢	
Nos. 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	do	do	
W. B. 40¢ 50¢ 52¢ 54¢ 56¢ 58¢ 60¢ 62¢ 64¢ 66¢	do	do	
<b>Rivet Sets.</b>			
Steel Brass	do	25¢	
Star Black Walnut	do	50¢	dis 10¢
<b>Rollers.</b>			
Barrel, Sargent's list	do	60¢ to 10¢	
Acme (Anti-Friction)	do	50¢	
<b>Hose.</b>			
Muns' List, Aug. 3, 1882	do	10¢	
Manilla	1/4 inch and 1/2 inch		
Manilla	3/4 inch and 1 1/2 inch		
Manilla, Tar'd Rose	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Manilla, Tar'd Lathe Yarn	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Manilla, Hay Rope	boxwood		
Hemp	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Chamfer	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Standard	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Stanley	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Stephens	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
<b>Saw Irons.</b>			
Stephens	1/4 and 1 1/2 inch		
Self Heating	do	35¢ net	
Self Heating, "Taffers"	do	\$18.00 1¢ net	
Gleason's Shield and Toilet	do	25¢	
Mrs. Price's Irons, Square Back	do	35¢	
Enterprise Star Irons, new list, July 10, 1882	do	35¢	
Combined Flinter and Sad Iron	do	\$15.00	dis 15¢
Chinese Lau, dry (N. E. Butt Co.)	do	\$15.00	dis 15¢
New England	same list as B. & A. Flint	do	15¢
<b>Gas Paper.</b>			
Baeder & Adamson's Flint, 90 to 1/4, \$4.50 per ream	do	do	
Baeder & Adamson's Flint, 2 1/2 & 5, 4.50 per ream	do	do	
Baeder & Adamson's Flint, Assorted, 4.75 per ream	do	do	
Baeder & Adamson's Emery, 90 to 1/4, \$4.50 per ream	do	do	
Bartles Flint	84.75¢ 86.50¢ 90 per ream	do	35¢
Parties Harrison's \$1.75 per ream	do	35¢	
New England, same list as B. & A. Flint	do	15¢	
Gage	do	15¢	
<b>Man Cord.</b>			
Common	do	15¢ net	
Patent	do	15¢ net	
Silver Lake, Hemp	do	15¢ net	
White Lake, Hemp	do	15¢ net	
Silver Lake, Drab Cotton	do	15¢ net	
Raw Hide, 7' foot, 34 lb. 50¢ 4 1/2 lb. 70¢ 5 lb. 100¢	do	15¢	
<b>Steel Ribbons.</b>			
Clarke's, No. 1, \$1.00; No. 2, \$1.00 per gross	do	33¢	
Ferguson's	do	33¢	
Walker's	do	33¢	
Hammond's Window Sash	do	33¢	
New Haven Window Springs, No. 1, \$1.00	do	33¢	
"Common Sense," Japanned, Coppered and Bronzed	do	gross \$1.00 net	
"Common Sense," Nickel Plated	do	gross \$1.00 net	
Universal	do	33¢	
Universal Weights	do	33¢	
Sold Eyes, in 100 lots and over	do	15¢ net	
<b>Meat Sifters or Filters.</b>			
Miles' "Challenge"	do	50¢	
Ferry's	do	50¢	
Enterprise Mfg. Co.	do	50¢	
Silver's	do	50¢	
<b>Snaws.</b>			
Diebold Circular, Mill and Cross Cut	do	10¢	
Disston's Hand, Panel, Rip, &c.	do	10¢	
Boynton's Lightning Cross Cuts, new list	do	10¢	
Boynton's Circular and Mill	do	10¢	
Boynton's Ice	do	10¢	
Hammond's Window Sash	do	10¢	
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<b>Snaws.</b>			
White, Vermont	do	\$1.50	dis 25¢ to 5¢
Red, Polished and Varnished	do	\$1.50	dis 10¢
Raw Rods	do	10¢	dis 10¢
<b>Snaws.</b>			
White, Vermont	do	\$1.50	dis 25¢ to 5¢
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Red, Polished and Varnished	do	\$1.50	dis 10¢
Raw Rods	do	10¢	dis 10¢
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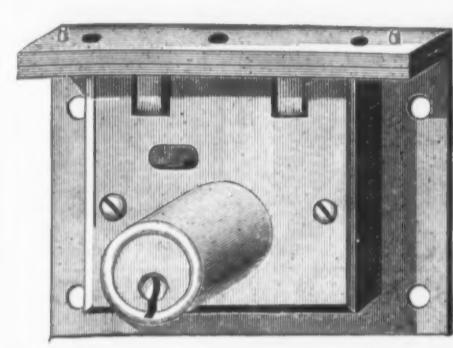
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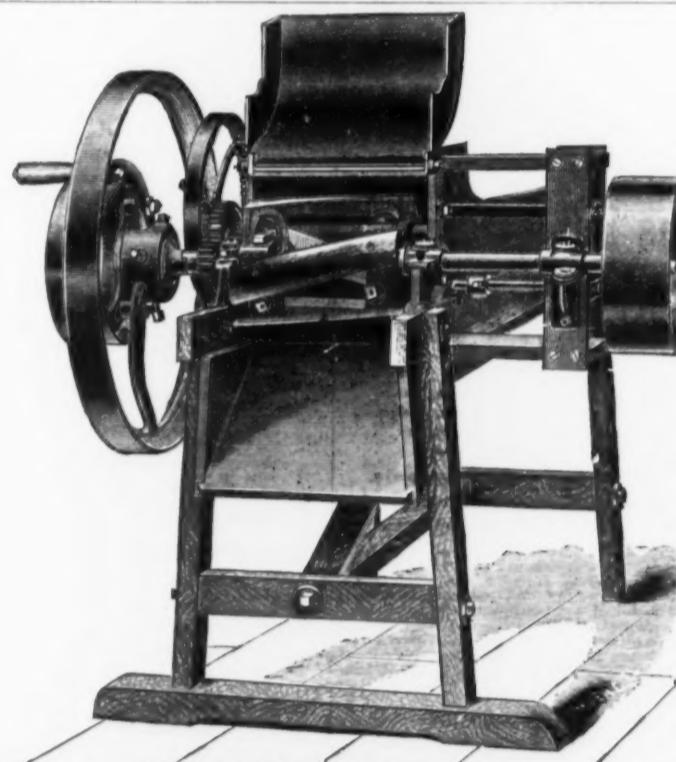
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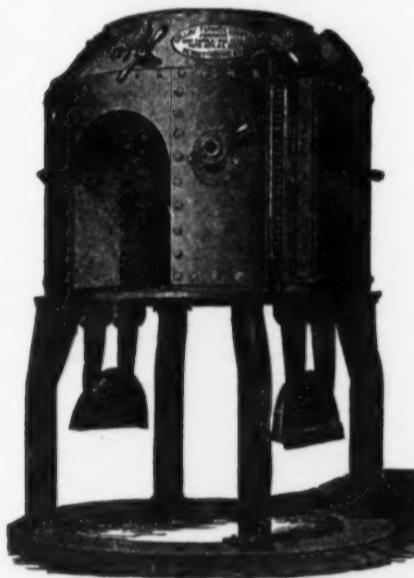
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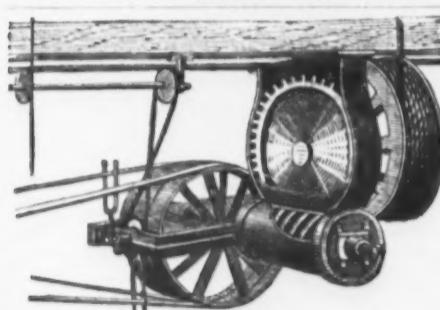
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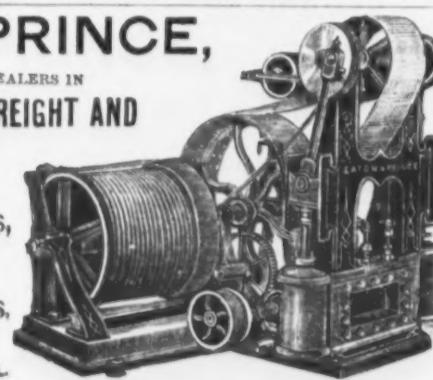
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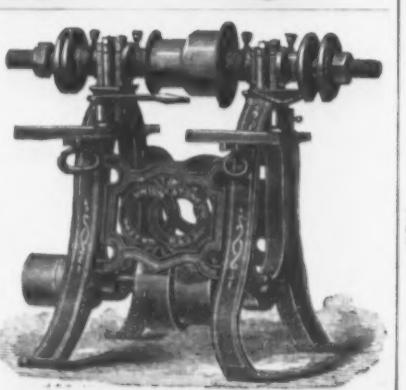
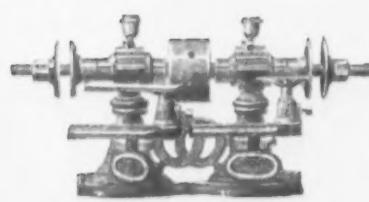
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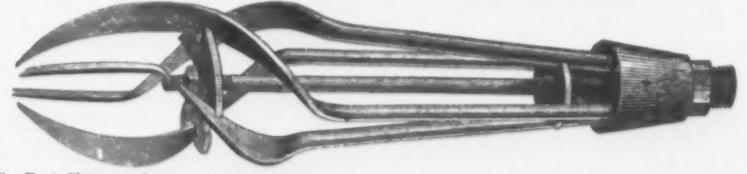
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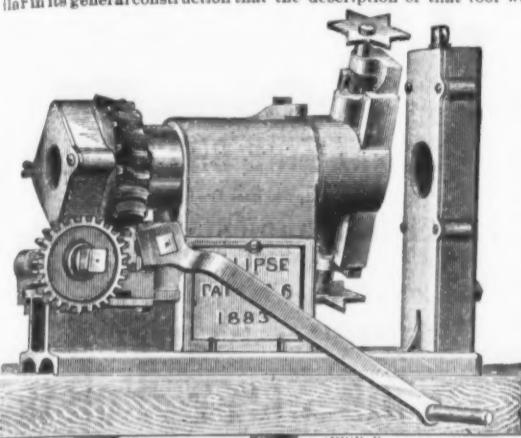
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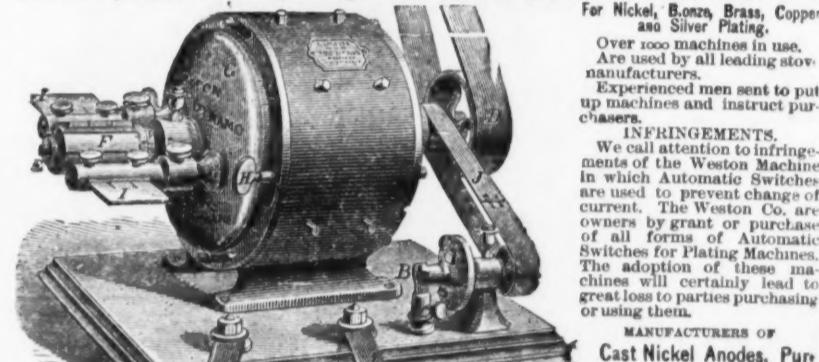
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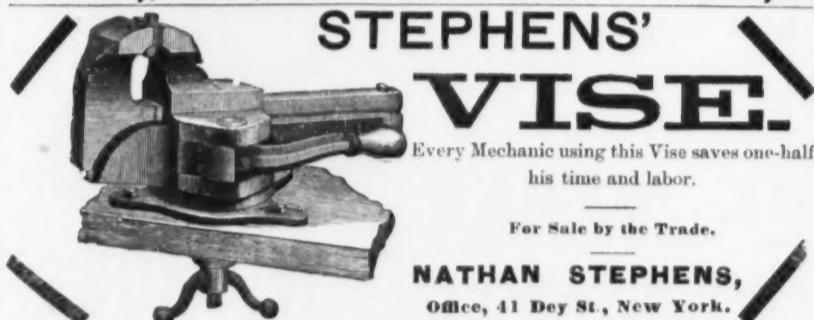
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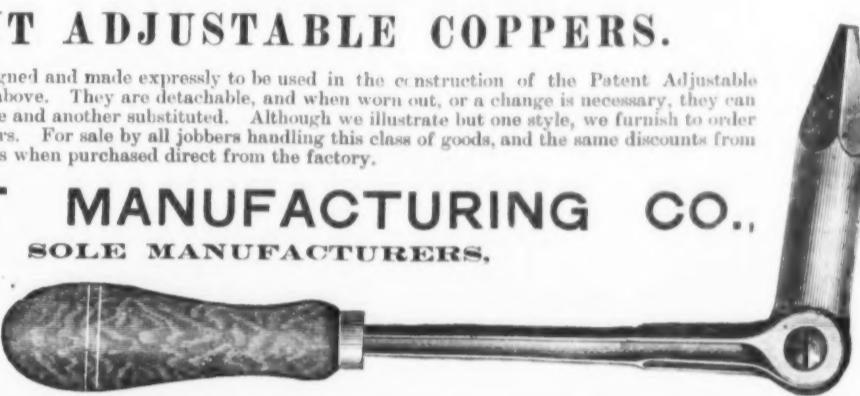
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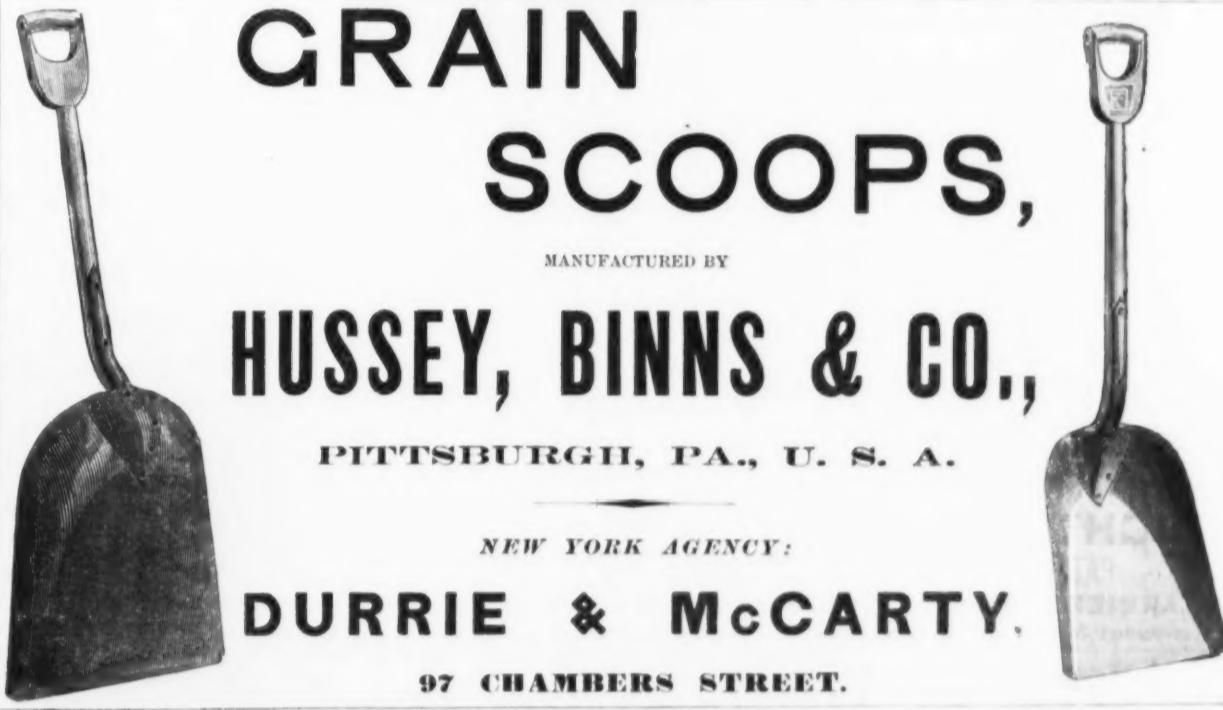


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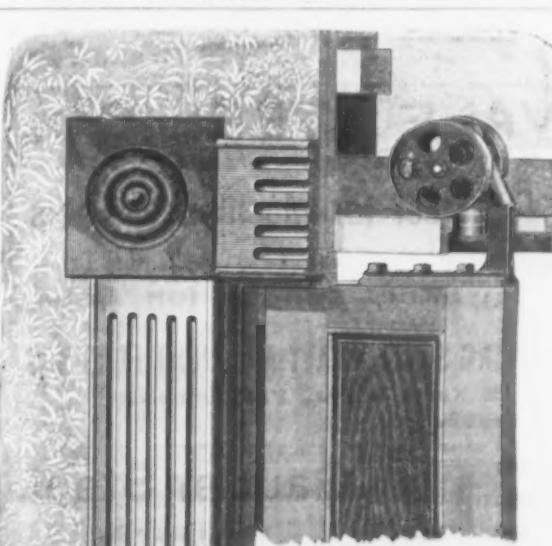
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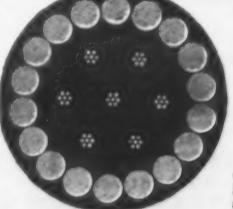
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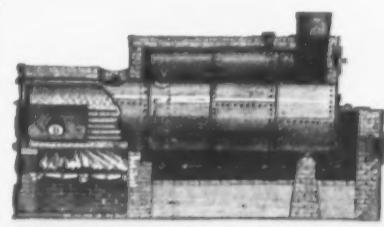
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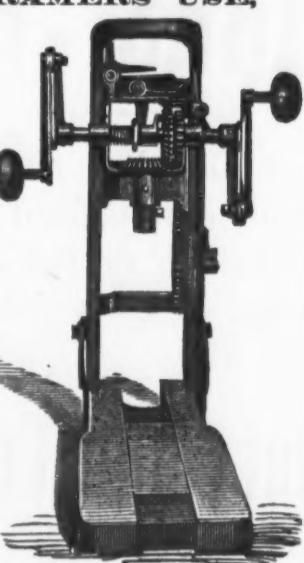
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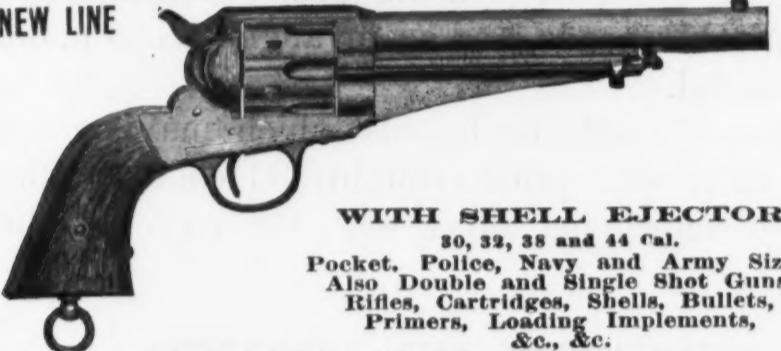
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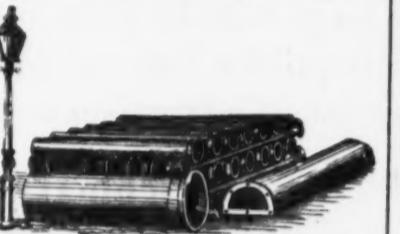
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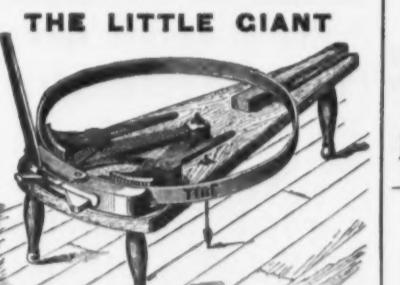
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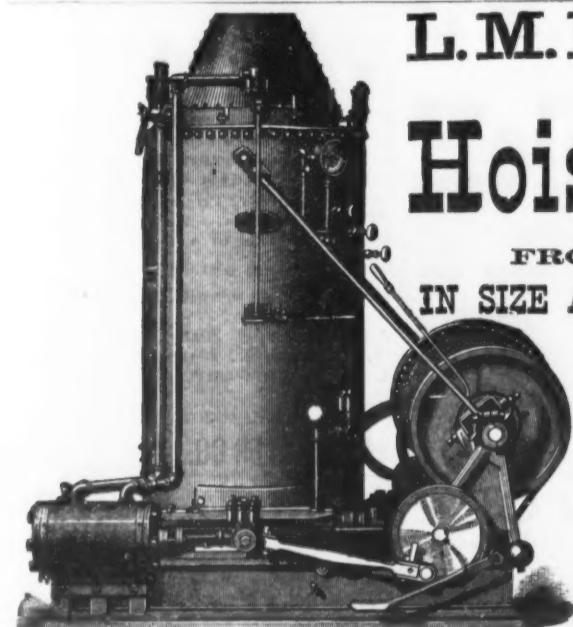
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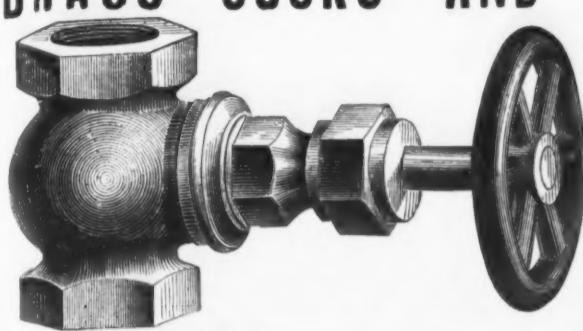
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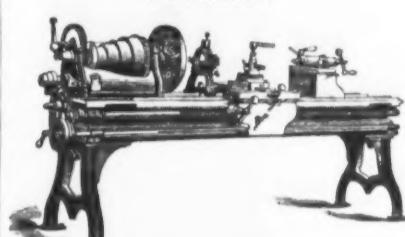
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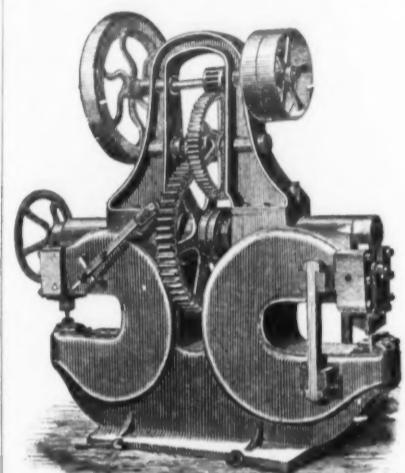
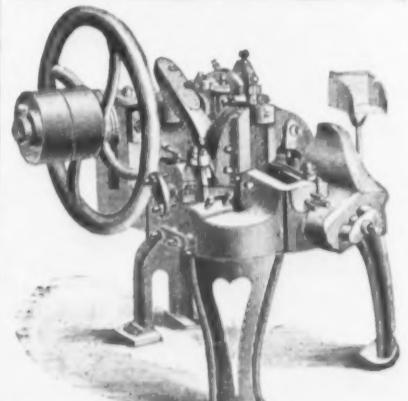
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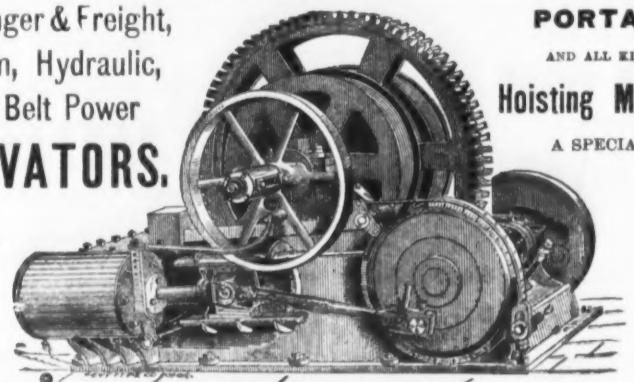
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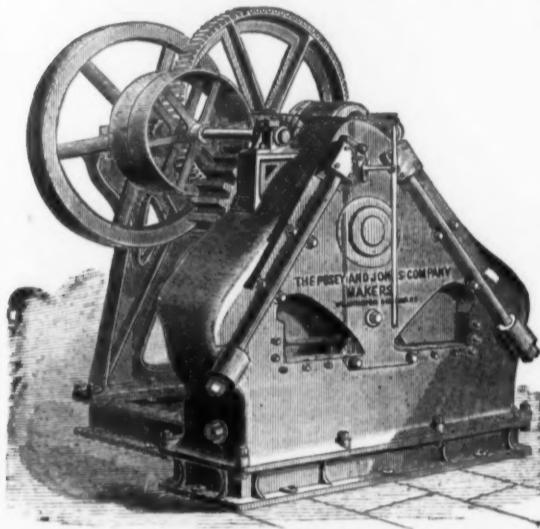
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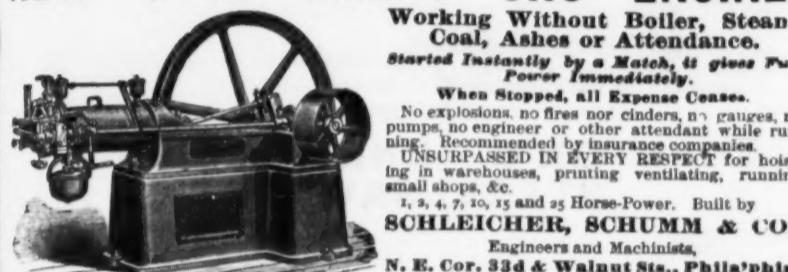
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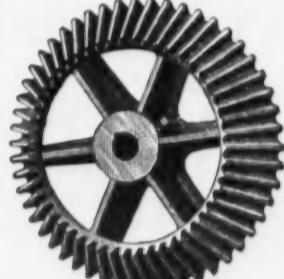
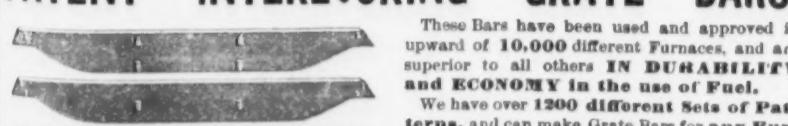
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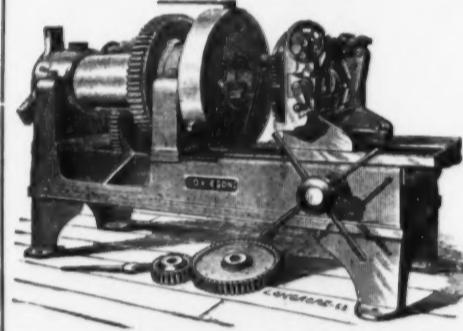
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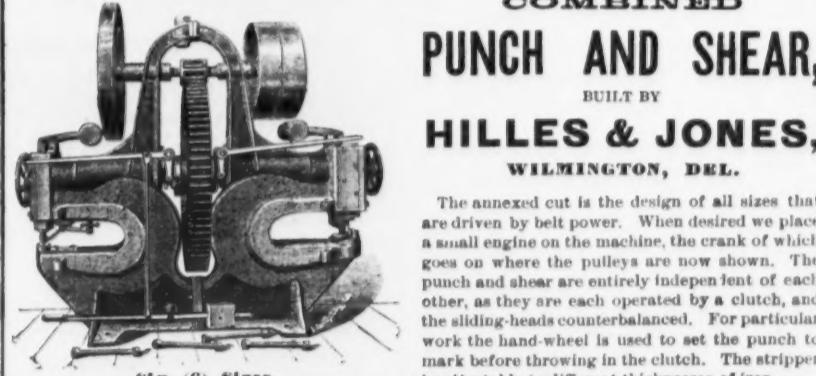
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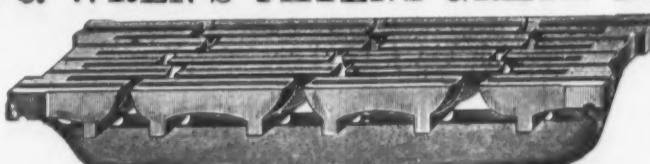
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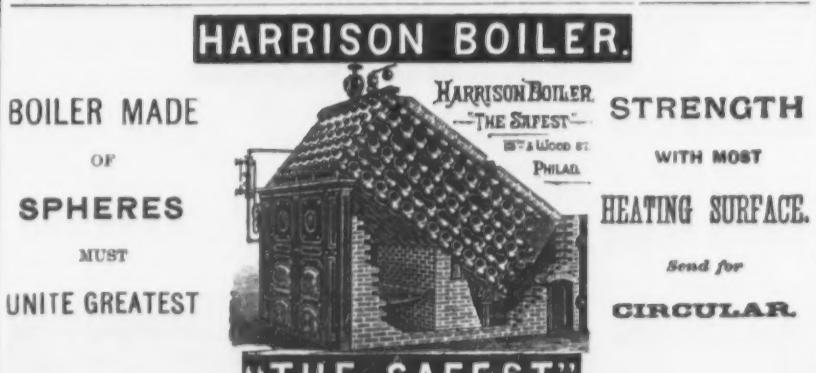
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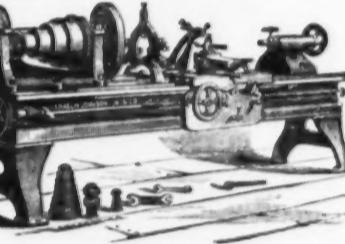
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